

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. LV.]

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BIRTHS.

On the 3rd April, at Shanghai, the wife of E. R. PALMER, of a daughter.
On the 6th April, at Shanghai, the wife of S. E. GREEN, of a daughter.
On the 6th April, at Mo-chi-shan, Yentai District, Manchuria, the wife of ALBERT C. WILSON, of a daughter.
On the 9th April, at 11, Museum Road, Shanghai, the wife of W. A. H. MOULE, of a daughter (still-born).
On the 12th April, at 2, Peking Road, Shanghai, the wife of HAROLD FREDERICK KING, of H.B.M. Consular Service in China, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 29th March, at S. George's Church, Penang, L. A. O., BARTLETT, of Newfoundland, to ESTELLE AUSTIN, of Penang.
On the 4th April, at the church of the Assumption, Penang, by the Rev. J. Mcneuvrier, Captain RICHARD OWEN, son of the late Captain THOMAS OWEN, of Carna von, North Wales, to PHOEBE MATILDA, second daughter of JOSEPH and LOUISA ADELIN SMITH, and granddaughter of the late Captain HENRY WILLIAM SMITH, of Yarmouth.
On the 9th April, at S. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, by the Rev. W. H. C. Dunkerley, ALBERT POWTRILL AGER, son of ALEXANDER P. AGER, of Bedford, England, to ELFRIDA LUCY, fifth daughter of Mrs. M. DE BASAGOTTI, Singapore.

DEATHS.

On the 3rd April, at Mount Elizabeth, Singapore, FENTON WALKER HILL, the beloved husband of MARY ALICE HILL, aged 53 years.
On the 4th April, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, H. H. SULZBERGER, aged 73 years.
On the 6th April, at Shanghai, EMILY AUGUSTA, the wife of JOHN P. ROBERTS, aged 69 years.
On the 6th April, at Wuhu, the Rev. CHARLES E. MOLLAND.
On the 7th April, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, FREDERICK HOLLAND, aged 30 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The Canadian mail of the 24th March arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of India*, on the 15th April (22 days); the German mail of the 18th March arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Princess Irene*, on the 15th April (28 days); the French mail of the 21st March arrived, per M. M. steamer *Tonkin*, on the 19th March (29 days); and the American mail of the 21st March arrived, per T. K. K. steamer *America Maru*, on the 19th March (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Sir James Mackay has suggested that all foreign business houses and companies in China should be registered at the Imperial Maritime Customs, where a list might usefully be kept on hand for reference.

The number of Chinese students going to Japan for education purposes is increasing steadily. The total is now 274, of whom 163 have been sent officially. Several have gone, and more are going, from Hongkong.

The official returns from the Canton prisons show that for the year ending 30th January (Chinese Calendar) no less than 9,100 prisoners and robbers were decapitated. The heaviest return was registered for the last two months of the closing year, when no less than 4,400 prisoners were either publicly executed or secretly done away with.

A Customs Notification has been published stating that in accordance with the provisions of Article VI (e), 1, of the Peace Protocol of the 7th September, 1901, which raised to an effective five per cent. the actual tariff on maritime imports, including articles which had hitherto entered free, the issue of drawbacks for duty-paid ships' stores and bunker coal is discontinued.

The inspection of the Japanese Standing Squadron is now being made, says the *Nagasaki Press*. Immediately it is over the vessels will proceed to Sasebo, there to remain for several days. They will then cruise along the coasts of Formosa, China, and Corea, and will probably return to Maizuru about the middle of May. The squadron will make several days' stay at Weihaiwei, but will not enter the Gulf of Pechili during the cruise.

The Peking correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* telegraphed on the 13th inst. — The question of establishing treaty ports in Manchuria, namely, at Moukden (Fêngtien, or Lower Manchuria), Tsitsihar and Harbin (Heilungchiang, or Northern Manchuria) and other important points will be discussed during the present Commercial Treaty negotiations in Shanghai, and will be introduced by either one of the British, United States or Japanese, Commissioners.

According to a Tientsin despatch, says the *Shanghai Times*, the Chinese Plenipotentiaries have agreed to all the conditions proposed by the foreign Powers in regard to the restoration of Tientsin to China, except the one which prohibits China from garrisoning Tientsin City with a large army.

The number of Russian troops which it is decided shall be withdrawn from Manchuria as the result of the Convention, is given as 35,800. Of this number, however, 800 will be retained as railway guards. The force to be withdrawn consists of 20,000 infantry, 8,000 cavalry, 6,000 artillery, and 1,000 engineers.

The existing Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Japan and Corea being considered very defective and to impede the development of trade between the two countries, the Japanese Government is reported to have on foot a scheme for revision of the Treaty, says the *Kobe Chronicle*. This proposal is made with a view to giving greater facilities for trade and to remove difficulties which are apt to rise in connection with the prohibition of the export of cereals proclaimed from time to time in Corea.

It is stated that the Japanese capitalist Yasuda Zenjiro proceeds to Wuchang for the purpose of completing arrangements to take over Viceroy Chang Chitang's four cotton-spinning mills, which cost five million taels. Yasuda agrees to provide yen 1,200,000, whereof half are for working capital, and the remainder is to be employed to liquidate the debt due to German capitalists. Concerning the division of profits, it is arranged that interest on Yasuda's advances shall first be deducted, and he will then hand the remainder over to the Viceroy.

A telegram from Saigon, of date 7th inst., gives further particulars with regard to the changes in the French Far Eastern naval forces. It says:—The French naval divisions, of the Far East, of Cochin China, and of the Pacific Ocean have been suppressed and replaced by a naval force for the Far East placed under the command of a Vice-Admiral. It is composed, firstly, of a squadron of armed ships forming two divisions composed in principal of six vessels each; secondly, of eight sea-going ships and river-gunboats; thirdly, of submarine torpedo-boats; fourthly, of a reserve division consisting principally of armed cruisers and coastguard ships stationed at Saigon; and fifthly, of ships and transports. The sphere of activity of the squadron comprises the China Seas, Japan, and the Pacific Ocean. It will be strong in cruisers.

Our correspondent telegraphed from Shanghai on the 16th April, to the following effect:—Prince Tsai Cheng, Special Ambassador to London, arrived on Monday evening by the *Anping*, and is staying at the Bureau in Bubbling Well Road. He is visiting and entertaining every day. Yesterday, Prince Cheng was banqueted by the high mandarins Chang, Su, and Ho; many foreigners were present. To-day he dined at the British consulate and to-morrow at the American consulate. On Friday the Ambassador will dine with Sir James Mackay, visit H.M.S. *Arcturion*, and attend a garden party at Mr. R. E. Bredon's. He will leave on Monday by the *Bengal*. Prince Cheng's suite is exclusively Chinese.

RUSSIA AND MANCHURIA.

(Daily Press, 14th April.)

It was hardly to be expected that the attempt at dignified silence that marked Russia's first reception of the news that England and Japan, tired of waiting for the return to commonsense of the nations of Europe most interested, had put their heads together with the serious intention of stopping any further plunder on the part of Russia in Eastern Asia. Hitherto one of the strongest, if not the very strongest, of Russia's offensive weapons has been bluff and bluster; and the instinct has become so engrained in her constitution that we may calculate the shock to her nervous system by the length of time that elapsed before the ordinary bark rose to her throat. Now that it has come it reminds us of nothing so much as the bad boy's inane threat when the master has found him out in some unusually serious offence, that if he catch him any day in a bog-hole he will prod his eye with a long stick. Russia in fact, like the school-boy, resents the master's scrutiny and thinks it a hardship that the master, warned by previous breaches of the moral law, should keep a sharp eye on his present doings; and half unconsciously threatens that if England and Japan continue to maintain their look-out he will—when he gets the chance—plug his eye in Afghanistan, or even in Beluchistan. If the threat were a new one, or the present offered any special opportunity for putting it in practice, we might be disposed to pay it some particular attention. As a fact it has hung over us ever since the Tsar ALEXANDER and the Emperor NAPOLEON conceived their grand scheme for the conquest of India. England was then particularly distasteful to both Powers, as she had had the temerity to interfere, and call hands off, when the two had their hands actually on the throat of the whole of continental Europe. The campaign of Alexander the Great was the model set before the two, and India was to be again invaded through Syria, Persia and Afghanistan. From various causes, one of which was the proposed division of the spoil in prospective, the two monarchs quarrelled before their scheme had been out of the shell, and the victory of NELSON at Copenhagen forged the first link in a long chain, which eventually ended in the Island of S. Helena.

None know better than the Russians themselves the difficulties that face any army that endeavours to reach India across the deserts of Central Asia, and that at all times prestige rather than actual power has hitherto been the actuating force. Intrigue and treachery have always been the main weapons made use of in these regions, and the introduction of fresh blood the least important; thus, except in times when corruption has prevailed to such a degree that government has ceased practically to exist, hostile troops have never succeeded in crossing the great desert. Russia was particularly favoured by circumstances in this respect, as she was able to attack the Khanates at a time when, owing to the individual failures of the individual rulers, revolution was already far advanced, and the entire of Transoxiana was ready to obey the first strong man who presented himself. Russia has hitherto excited by her Asiatic propensity of taking advantage of such conditions, but this policy though conducive to the rapid formation of enormous empires, is also equally conducive to their rapid fall. When in fact a rift is started in the loosely aggregated mass it spreads with terrible rapidity, and the first effective rent made in the borders

of the tissue quickly, if not immediately repaired, leads to the disintegration of the entire. It was thus that the rift made in Russia's skirts by the Crimean war proved so serious a shock to the entire Empire that it took an entire generation and continual patching before the tendency to split was staunch. Russia feels instinctively that a similar check undergone by her in her eastern extension would have similar, or even more disastrous, results; even the publicity thrown on her methods of procedure is having its result, and hence the action of Great Britain and Japan in throwing on her the full power of the flashlight is already felt as a restraining force. It is this intense light of publicity which has already turned against her the prestige which she hoped to gain from her slaughter of the unoffending Chinese settlers at Blagoveschensk. It has been customary with Russia, as with other nations in a similar stage, to endeavour at the commencement of an invasion to spread terror amongst the threatened nation by the display of some utterly uncalled-for piece of brutality. The advance of the Tartar hordes under JENGHIZ KHAN was marked by cruelties equally uncalled for, except to tutor the intended victim into a wholesome dread of what should befall him did he endeavour to make a stand. It was thus also that Russia's attack on Turkey in 1854 began with the useless massacre of Sinope, which, except as an indication of what lengths Russia was prepared to go, had no strategic effect on the fortunes of the subsequent war. The dismissal of the commander at Blagoveschensk who interpreted his ambiguous orders in the way his previous experience taught him was intended by his masters, has been only intended as a sop to Europe, but will probably turn out to be equally a blunder in the eyes of her Oriental subjects, as indicating that with all her bluff and cruelty Russia still has a dread of the terrible retribution which is one day to fall on her for her reiterated crimes against human nature. It is very likely that Russia objects very strongly to let her future efforts in a similar direction appear too plainly. Had not the European Powers been content to permit a cloud of mystery to be thrown round her previous conduct in Eastern Asia, such episodes as the massacre of Blagoveschensk, and the irruption into Manchuria would have been impossible, nor should she be now able to shroud her present doings with her own peculiarly Kimmerian darkness. In fact, Russia herself has chosen her course, and as it is one fraught with danger to her neighbours it has become of the last importance that she should be placed under espionage. To prevent her obtaining any further base of operations in the Pacific has now become a matter of importance to the rest of the world. It has not been from any instinct of good feeling that she has hitherto kept out of Afghanistan, but because she had not the opportunity, so that her threats are only further evidence of bad faith. It is no new game of hers to seek to push her way to the Indian Ocean, and the shutting her out from her darling project of absorbing Eastern Asia, while it will certainly reduce her power, will in no measure increase her longing to get to the Persian Gulf. Russia has elected to become the Esau amongst the Nations, and in receiving the treatment of a pariah only obtains her logical reward.

Mr. F. S. A. Bourne will be Acting Chief Justice at H.B.M.'s Supreme Court at Shanghai, and Mr. H. F. King, Acting Assistant Judge during the absence on leave of Mr. H. S. Wilkinson, the Chief Justice.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

(Daily Press, 16th March.)

The report of the annual meeting of the London branch of the China Association, published in last Saturday's issue, will be read with much interest by members of the Association here and at Shanghai. The subject most referred to was the proposal of Sir JAMES MACKAY for the adoption in China of a ten per cent. surtax in lieu of *lekin*. Mr. KESWICK, M.P., like the Chairman of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce on a recent occasion, explained that his views were purely personal and that he was not representing the Association in stating them. In both cases, however, such opinions are bound to influence the judgment of many of those merchants who may be called upon to give a decision on this most important subject. Up to the present the British merchants of Hongkong, either as members of the China Association, or as members of the Chamber of Commerce, or as a mercantile community independent of these two bodies, have expressed publicly no opinion on Sir JAMES MACKAY's proposals. Their views, it is true, have not been asked, but the proposal of the surtax is to them such a serious matter that it is a question whether they would not be justified in seeking to obtain some decision and of giving public utterance to it. That, of course, is for the merchants themselves to decide, and usually they may safely be relied upon to estimate the value of their interests and to act when these are threatened. In some respects the proposal has more serious aspects to the merchants in Hongkong than to those in Shanghai, for its adoption would probably mean a disastrous result to the majority of our local industries. The Shanghai industries would presumably escape this. To the Committee of the Shanghai branch of the China Association this may come within the scope of what they somewhat loftily term "small matters," but the fact remains, that considering the amount of money of all classes there is invested in our local industries it is not unbusinesslike to suppose that it will be considered.

It is very difficult to obtain any local consensus of opinion on the subject of the proposal of a surtax, although it is generally considered that some expression of local opinion should be given before Sir JAMES MACKAY's proposal is made formally to the Chinese Government. It is true that the other Powers may not accept his proposal, and it would then fall to the ground. It is also conceivable that having less to sacrifice they will do what England may decide to do. Sir THOMAS JACKSON spoke out very clearly at the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, and gave his personal opinion as to the value of the guarantee of the abolishment of *lekin* as being his "strong belief in the far-reaching power of 'the Chinese Government,' a guarantee which to most men here is very feeble and unconvincing. It is difficult even for a banker to do business on those terms. In some matters the power of the Central Government is very great; in *lekin* it has no power at all. We question very much its means to abolish it. It is unnecessary to enter into the ramifications of the *lekin* system, or the numbers of people its much-desired abolishment would affect. Without the system of international police suggested by Lord CHARLES BERESFORD its eradication outside the principal centres would be almost impossible. The supporters of Sir JAMES MACKAY's proposal adopt the magnanimous position that the sacrifice of ten per cent. surtax, and the serious effects

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on local industries outside China proper, would be amply repaid by the possibility of the abolishment of *lekin*. If the merchant feels that he has sound security that *lekin* will be abolished, that the Central Government has power to fulfil its obligations, he will be willing, we think, to make the experiment. The matter depends entirely on the question of guarantee. The Manchester Chamber of Commerce offers strong objection to an increase of fifteen per cent, but will not object to ten per cent. The Committee of the Shanghai branch of the China Association, we understand, has proposed a resolution in support of Sir JAMES MACKAY's proposal. The basis of that resolution is the form of guarantee suggested, namely, "by the institution of a reformed system of fiscal administration in the provinces." It may be asked, why not compel China to inaugurate the latter, which on paper seems so plausible, and let the *lekin* question stand over? Why not go thus to the fountain head, and when you have introduced an honest civil administration there will be no need for *lekin*? In fact, Sir THOMAS JACKSON's conception of a guarantee, coupled with that of the Committee of the Shanghai branch of the China Association, reveal the enormous difficulties attending the proposal to abolish *lekin*. No such satisfactory proposals or guarantees can be given by the Central Government, and however much in sympathy the British merchant may be with this scheme that would terminate this octopus of inland commerce, his judgment, formed from years of experience of the Chinese Government, is opposed to it. It would perhaps be better to look to the gradual though continual improvement of the transit pass system as an alternative of the *lekin* evil. The question is one, however, of such vital importance to local trade that we should be glad to receive some expressions of opinion on the subject before again alluding to it.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION.

(Daily Press, 15th April.)

The Report of the Commission which was appointed to enquire into the state of the Public Works Department has been published. Its main feature is that it serves to show the futility of the Commission system. There are no doubt recommendations in it that are good. But there is not a single recommendation which was not self-evident before the Commission was appointed and which might not have been safely given effect to without all the delay attendant upon the examination of witnesses and the chronicling of their evidence. In effect, the Commission's Report amounts to this, that the staff of the Public Works Department should be increased. It seems nonsensical to have to go through the formality of a public enquiry in order to arrive at such a conclusion. The recommendation of the Director of Public Works does not perhaps carry the same weight as the deliberative opinion of a duly-appointed Commission, yet we think the Government might well have trusted to the matured knowledge of the Hon. W. CHATHAM in this affair, so far, at least, as regards his request for an increase in the staff. It is now nearly a year ago since he drew the attention of the Government to the inefficiency, in point of numbers, of the Department of which he is the head, and still that reform which he advocated is unaccomplished—though in a fair way to be so—which could have been given effect to by a stroke of the pen. At home the appointment of a Royal Commission to

enquire into any subject is generally considered to be synonymous to a shelving of the question. We have had evidence lately that the same principle applies unfortunately to Colonial methods, but it is to be hoped that in this case the moderate and well-considered recommendations of the Commission will be given full effect to by the Government. They ought to be approved of *in toto*.

Not the least interesting of the many points that emerged during the hearing of evidence before the Commission was the side-light thrown upon the Crown Agent system. The Crown Agent system was not, as the Report carefully points out, referred to the Commission for enquiry, yet, owing to certain statements made by the witnesses, they felt that "those statements should be thoroughly investigated." Mr. A. DENISON in his evidence stated that he knew an instance in which he was purchasing iron for his clients at a much cheaper rate than that at which it was being supplied at the same time to the Colony by the Crown Agents. It was also stated by a member of the Commission that the Crown Agents had forwarded a consignment of cement to Hongkong without having received any requisition in the usual way from the Government. As a result of enquiry which followed upon these statements it transpired that the cement in question was duly ordered by the Director of Public Works, Mr. ORMSBY, who appears to have forgotten that he had sent his order and to have misled others into believing that the Crown Agents had forwarded the cement without authority. "The witnesses," says the Report further, "who have had practical experience of the Crown Agent system, including Mr. CHADWICK, all speak highly of it, and the Commission is of opinion that it works well and that it would not be easy to substitute for it any other system that would work so satisfactorily." In the light of that expression of opinion, it is interesting to place in juxtaposition the view of Mr. ROBERT SHEWAN, a gentleman whose business acumen and common-sense are well known and appreciated. Speaking as a member of the Commission, he says:—"I am not of the opinion that the Crown Agent system works well. I think the Government would be better served by its own Agents, under its own orders, whom the Government could change when dissatisfied. I do not think that the Crown Agents should be entrusted with the floating of loans. That should be done through a Bank or financial firm of first-class standing." Mr. SHEWAN's opinion will, we think, meet with the approbation of everyone who has had the misfortune to have lived under a Crown Colony government. The Crown Colony system is radically bad so far as regards the liberty and independence of the subject: the Crown Agent system, as an integral part of it, shares in the obnoxious characteristic. In the case in point the Commission have gone to great length to refute the allegations, and have succeeded. But that does not alter the main fact. To their refutation of the charges, indeed, one is prone to retort, "Thou protestest too much." If we must have Crown Colony government, let us at least have the privilege that Mr. SHEWAN suggests of having our own Agents, under our own orders, whom the Government can change when dissatisfied. The *British Trade Journal*, an eminently well-versed newspaper, recently made some pertinent remarks upon the Crown Colony and Crown Agent system. In its issue of the 1st March it says:—"How inimical to trade development is the Crown Colony system again has

been illustrated by the efforts of Jamaica to obtain commercial representation in London. The planters and merchants of Jamaica are bluntly told by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN that it is impossible for a Crown Colony like theirs to have an agent in England occupying a position in any way similar to that of the Agent-General or Commercial Agents of self-governing Colonies. He tells them that if their trading interests are to be represented in London, their agent must be entirely unconnected with the Government, although there would be no objection to making a small grant to such a body as the Royal Jamaica Society of Agriculture and Commerce. The Crown Colonies are, therefore, to be ear-marked commercially as well as politically, and while Canada and the Australian States have the advantage of commercial agents in England, Jamaica's trade is to be sacrificed in the interests of red-tape. It would almost appear that the authorities are determined to drive our West Indian Colonies to seek protection and development under another flag." If Jamaica is to be ear-marked and sacrificed to the cause of what a facetious and well-known writer calls "rufus tape-orum," we cannot expect to be exempt in Hongkong from the same influence; yet it strikes us that it is time the Crown Colonies of the Empire took combined action in this matter and made it plain to the home Government that they desire to be governed according to common-sense.

THE DROUGHT.

(Daily Press, 19th April.)

The present year will be memorable for its long continued drought. Not alone in this unfortunate Island of the Fragrant Streams but in most parts of Southern China has scarcity of water prevailed. In the Yangtze Valley there has been no rain for a prolonged period, and the great river is unusually low, while everything is parched and dusty, with a high temperature. In the province of Chekiang there has been a disastrous shortage both of snow and rain, and the outlook for the crops is very disheartening. At Swatow the water famine has at last been mitigated, but in most parts of Kwangtung the rivers have fallen so low as to impede navigation, while the prospects for the crops are deplorable, their salvation lying in an early downpour of the needed rain. The same story also comes from Hainan, where there has been no rain since early in the autumn, the water in the streams is running low, many rice-fields have not been planted, and the sweet potato crop is a failure. We in Hongkong are not single therefore in our affliction; the absence of that useful trouble of the rain has been almost as much marked along the coast for many hundreds of miles. The fact that our neighbours are little better off than ourselves is, however, poor comfort to us here. Indeed it may be doubted whether, even to the most selfish, it can be counted as other than an addition to disaster, for the wider the area of the water famine the greater and more permanent the suffering, from ruined crops and diminished trade, must be.

In Hongkong what troubles us most now is how much longer can we go on in the present dilemma. The Government are doing all they can both by husbanding the supply and bringing from Lai-chi-kok two and a half million gallons per day to provide for immediate wants. But the supply in the reservoirs is daily growing smaller, and the scanty dole now issued will soon have to be further reduced or it will cease

altogether. Local industries are of course seriously affected by the want of water, and the output at the sugar refineries at East Point has been restricted in consequence. In some cases recourse has been had to wells, but this only gives a precarious supply, and in some instances work has had to be suspended. The sanitary condition of the City of Victoria has so far been much more satisfactory than, under all the circumstances, could either have been hoped for or expected. This is due, we believe, partly to the very absence of moisture we so much lament—since plague makes most progress during the rains, when the masses retire into their close houses and shut themselves up there, instead of living mainly out of doors as they do in dry weather—and partly to the energetic measures adopted by the Sanitary Board to cleanse the corners and drains of the city. We are glad to give credit where it is due. The Sanitary Board have made the whole town redolent of disinfectants, but if they succeed in keeping down the enemy or minimising an epidemic the result will in either case justify the efforts made and the money spent. Meantime, however, great inconvenience is being felt, not only in factories and other places but also by every householder, by the difficulty of procuring a sufficiency of water for cleansing purposes. So far, we believe, few persons have to complain of actual inability to obtain sufficient for potable purposes, but that will come presently if the clouds will not yield the needed showers. A mere squall or even a passing thunderstorm will not give us the water required. The few showers experienced early in the month were grateful to the thirsty soil and parched vegetation, but they made no appreciable addition to the storage.

The existing crisis should, however, teach a lesson for the future. Had the extension of the reservoirs been proceeded with earlier, the storage of water would have been sufficient for the wants of the Colony and this scarcity would not have been so pronounced; although it must be admitted that it is partly due to the unprecedentedly short rainfall of 1901, which did not even fill the Tytarm Reservoir. At the same time, the necessity of providing for a recurrence of such a short rainfall is apparent to all, and it is to be hoped that no further delays will take place either in supplementing the storage for the supply of this island, or in the construction of the projected new water works for Kowloon. The scheme prepared by Mr. ORMSBY will, we understand, provide an ample supply for the whole of the peninsula, allowing even for an enormous increase in the population. If thought desirable, however, the scheme should be extended now, because there can be little doubt of the continued development of the peninsula and the growth of industrial enterprise thereon. There ought to be no difficulty in securing an unlimited and unfailing supply of water on the mainland, whatever may be the case in the limited water-shed of this island.

At the boxing tournament held at Yokohama on the 3rd inst., Jack Slavin was to box three rounds with Mr. J. W. Thompson, but for some reason or other the latter did not appear as his opponent, and Mr. Slavin boxed with a marine instead. The contests for Messrs Arthur and Bond's cups were most interesting. Mr. J. Jones would have won both 9 and 10 stone prizes, as he was by far the best of all the contestants, but opposing a man of heavier weight in the last bout in lieu of another who had disabled his hand, the boxing was only of a friendly nature, and Mr. Jones yielded the trophy to his opponent Mr. Guerin.

EDUCATION IN THE COLONY.

(Daily Press, 12th April.)

The exhaustive and complete character of the Report that has been drawn up and presented to the Government by the Special Committee appointed to enquire into the educational position and requirements of the Colony bears testimony to the painstaking, conscientious manner in which the Committee have performed the task allotted them. Not the least interesting of the various recommendations put forward in the Report are the suggested improvements upon existing educational institutions; yet one cannot but be impelled, in the first instance, to give primary consideration to those proposals which introduce entirely new subject-matter. That it is essential that the children of British parentage be educated by themselves, and not side by side with the children of other nationalities or races, is taken as having been already approved in principle. It is upon that basis that the Report has been formulated; and rightly so. Now that a British School for Kowloon is become an established fact, the recommendation of the Committee that such a school should be provided may be allowed to fall out of the account. There remains then as the central idea of their proposals the establishment of a British School in Victoria, coupled with the proviso that the Queen's College revert to the purpose for which it was originally intended, and supply an education to Chinese only. Subsidiary to this principal and almost non-controversial proposal there are two others of a kind which should meet with general approbation: the first, that a boarding-house should if possible be established in connection with the Victoria British School; the second, that all boys of sufficient age should be required to join a Cadet Corps, if the Military Authorities can arrange to form one. The evidence given before the Committee went to show amply that the first of these addenda to the main proposition has had not a little to do with the successful founding of similar schools in the East, if it be not, indeed, an almost indispensable accompaniment of such institutions. It may be taken for granted that British residents in Canton and other Treaty Ports would take advantage of it to send their children to Hongkong for their education. As regards the Cadet Corps, we know the kindly attitude which His Excellency Major-General Sir W. GASCOIGNE bears towards such a scheme: he has already given expression to the pleasure it would afford him to see a Cadet Corps formed in the Colony; and we are sure the project will get His Excellency's warmest support. The desirability of the formation of a Cadet Corps it is unnecessary, we think, to enlarge upon. With respect to the High School for Chinese already authorised to be established, the Committee have two suggestions to put forward, viz., that it should be open to all Chinese of respectable antecedents and connections, and that the fees charged should be high; the latter provision ensuring that the cost, so far as it exceeds that of the other Anglo-Chinese Schools, shall fall upon the scholars and not upon the ratepayers, and thereby doing away, doubtless, with the only real objection which has been brought against the scheme. In the New Territory, the Committee are of opinion, it will, to commence with, suffice to open Anglo-Chinese Schools at Uen Long and Sheung Shui, with Vernacular Schools attached.

In that part of the Report which comes under the head of "Recommendations for

the Improvement of Existing Schools," the most drastic change proposed is, as has already been indicated, the reversion of Queen's College to its original purpose—the teaching of Chinese students only. The internal reforms to follow upon that are no less drastic, as well as being much needed. It is now suggested among other things that every division of every class should receive instruction in English from an English master for not less than one and a half hours a day; that the English masters should be each in charge of a class, with Chinese subordinates; and that pupil teachers should be organised under a practical system. These would go far towards removing the unsatisfactory state of things which exists under the present methods of imparting Western knowledge to Chinese pupils. Various changes are also proposed in connection with the Grant Schools, but upon this aspect of the question we cannot enter at present. The Report must strike the impartial observer as being eminently fair and well-balanced, advocating no rash measures, but rather bearing the evidences of a true spirit of advancement being held carefully in check by a proper degree of cool calculation. That the Government will stamp it with its imprimatur is to be hoped.

NATIONAL CABLES.

(Daily Press, 17th April.)

It is now some time since French publicists first began to agitate for a telegraph line which should connect France with her colonies without the messages having to pass at any point over British lines. The change which they called for has not yet been effected, though a step in that direction has been taken in the establishment of connection between Indo-China and Amoy, avoiding Hongkong, and thence by land lines with the Russian telegraphic system. The full scheme, if ever adopted, is likely to take long to carry out, and until then France is obliged to rely to a certain extent on British cables for communication with her colonies. But France is not the only country which is making an effort to get rid of British influence over the world's telegraphic service. Recently we have heard of a Dutch scheme for connecting Netherlands India with Europe via America. Still later comes the suggestion that Germany should put a stop to the system whereby American news to Germany is "coloured" by passing through London. A Berlin journal, the *Kreuz Zeitung*, claims that English interference is responsible for most of the recent anti-German feeling in the United States, and that REUTER'S agency (which, we are told, is invariably hostile to Germany) has a complete influence over the German agency known as "WOLFF'S Bureau." The *Kreuz Zeitung* calls for the abolition of the "malign influence of British middle-men" and a closer drawing together of Germany and the United States, a sign of which is to be the establishment of a German-American cable with no filtration of news through English hands. The demand, in three different countries, for a telegraphic system over which Great Britain has no control need not excite much astonishment. It is one of the indirect results of the South African War. Though it may surprise us that REUTER should be accused of unduly favouring the British in the transmission of news, it is not to be wondered at that the extent of British influence over the messages despatched from South Africa should be a cause of jealousy and resentment.

among other nations, temporarily at least hostile to Britain. From the actual establishment of independent telegraphic services, not passing through our hands, nothing is to be feared. A multiplication of the means of intercommunication between different quarters of the globe is to be welcomed heartily, and in default of a State-owned British cable-system, to which many are anxiously looking forward, the stimulus of foreign competition, resulting in cheaper rates and other benefits, is a matter for congratulation, not for regret.

NAVAL NEEDS.

(Daily Press, 18th April.)

Lord CHARLES BERESFORD, in his speech before the London Chamber of Commerce recently, points out:—

- I. That as far as administration goes there is no efficiency in the Navy.
- II. That there is no direct responsibility and that the Navy is not administered on business-like lines.
- III. That the Navy is not properly prepared or organised for war, and that this constitutes a danger to the country.
- IV. That when disaster comes we shall turn out the Government and so be in the happy position of losing the Government and the Empire at the same time.
- V. That the strength of a fleet depends not so much on the numbers as on the efficiency of the ships.
- VI. That there are very few captains who know anything at all about signals.
- VII. That the Council of Defence is a ludicrous body and should be done away with.
- VIII. That the Admirals are too old, and that they have not the physical ability to command a Fleet in action.
- IX. That the shooting of the Fleet is bad.

Here are defects pointed out by Lord CHARLES BERESFORD. If all of them, or any one of them, are correct, then, indeed, the Navy is in a bad way, and the sooner a Parliamentary enquiry is held the better.

In connection with No. IV., Mr. JULIAN CORBETT, in the March number of the *Monthly Journal*, remarks:—"The system of education in vogue is deliberately sewing for us the seeds of a naval Colenso, but trusts that when the naval Colenso does come it may not be at a moment that is vital." No. VII. is endorsed by Mr. ARNOLD WHITE in the *National Review*. He writes:—"Testy old Admirals in spectacles or afflicted with gout are better adapted for a Bath-chair at Bournemouth or a sunny seat on the hillside at Torquay than on the bridge of a modern battleship in a modern fleet." Lord CHARLES BERESFORD quotes that the last Government were turned out owing to an insufficiency of cordite. Had we not better get rid of our present administrators now instead of waiting for disaster. He pays a graceful tribute to Admiral Sir E. H. SEYMOUR in saying: "To the lasting credit of the 'Admiral of the China Squadron' they made 'good shooting so particular that it had 'enormously improved.' It is to be hoped that other Admirals will follow his example.

Dr. John Fryer is to return to China shortly from the United States, where he has been conducting a series of lectures. It is expected that he will arrive in China in time to attend the triennial meeting of China missionaries, which will be held in May.

THE FRENCH IN MACAO.

(Daily Press, 18th April.)

We learn that the agents of the French Government are again active at Macao, and are endeavouring to purchase some property belonging to a well-known resident there. The sum of \$87,000 is being offered for 20,000 feet, and it is likely the bargain will be completed unless objections are raised by the Portuguese authorities. The previously arranged sale of the Boa Vista Hotel property to the French Government, on being announced in these columns, was prevented by the Portuguese Government, who bought it over at the price agreed upon, and resold it to a charitable society. Up to the present the local authorities in Macao have taken no cognisance of the impending transaction, but it is assumed after their former action that they will do so.

HONGKONG AND THE CORONATION.

A meeting of the Coronation Committee was held in the Council Chamber on the 17th inst. His Honour the Chief Justice, Mr. W. Meigh Goodman, presided, and amongst those present were the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Hon. W. Chatham, Hon. R. Murray Rumsey, Hon. A. W. Brewin, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. Wei A. Yuk, and Messrs. R. C. Wilcox, F. J. Badeley, R. Shewan, A. Skelton, W. H. Wickham, E. H. Sharp, D. E. Brown, E. Osborne, W. Poate, W. Danby, A. J. Raymond, V. H. Deacon, E. A. Hewett, W. B. Dixon, J. Barton, C. Ford, A. Turner, Ho Tung, and Fung Wa Chun.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, since the Committee was selected I might say that one or two other names have been proposed—gentlemen who were not in the Colony at the time the Committee was selected. These are Mr. J. R. M. Smith chief manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Mr. Gersham Stewart, and Mr. W. H. Wickham, who have kindly consented to act on the Committee. Before commencing to-day's business, I might add that His Excellency has expressed his desire to say a few words, and with your permission I shall ask him to attend.

H. E. THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT was accordingly invited to be present, and addressed the meeting as follows:—Chief Justice and gentlemen,—I take it as a great compliment indeed that I should be invited in here to say a few words to you before commencing your labours, and I take the opportunity of thanking you with my whole heart for the ready way in which you have accepted my invitation to add these labours to what you already have to do. I know that all of you are very busy men, and I take your ready acceptance of my invitation as a proof which I did not need before that you all have the honour of this Colony as much at heart as I have. (Applause.) As for myself, gentlemen, you can easily understand that during my short period of administering the Government I would wish that everything should be done in Hongkong in a way thoroughly befitting the place. I yield to no man in my affection for Hongkong, and I yield to no man, either, in my estimation of the present political and commercial importance of Hongkong; and I think I have perhaps a higher opinion than many of the future of Hongkong. Therefore I would certainly desire that during my term of administration—an honour which I prize more highly than anything else—everything should be done in Hongkong in such a way that, in fact, you will not have to deplore in any way the absence of the real Governor. I therefore beg to assure you that in everything I can do you shall have the most complete help from me. Your wishes shall be in every way my law, and I will give you all possible assistance in my power, both in any military displays you may desire and in all other matters. I have been considering a number of schemes, but on reflection I felt that your experience and your knowledge were so far greater than my own that it would be far

wiser for me to leave myself in your hands, and this I do with the most perfect confidence. (Applause.)

His Excellency having retired, the CHAIRMAN said it had been decided, with a view to facilitating matters, to bring one or two resolutions before the meeting, the first of which would be moved by the Colonial Secretary.

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART—Sir, I have the honour to move the following resolution:—"That, in view of the approaching Coronation of His Majesty the King, steps should be at once taken to make arrangements for celebrating that auspicious event in this Colony in a suitable manner, and that subscriptions in aid of the necessary expenses be invited forthwith." Gentlemen, I do not think this resolution needs any words from me to commend it to you. Hongkong has had experience of many celebrations of a kind similar to that which will attend the Coronation in June, and on every occasion this Colony has come forward with only too great readiness to celebrate these auspicious events in a manner well worthy of the occasion, and I feel certain that on this occasion Hongkong will not allow itself to be second to any other place in the world in the manner in which it will celebrate the Coronation of our King. I do not know whether it will be out of place for me to make one or two suggestions, as I myself will not have the good fortune to be in Hongkong when the celebration takes place, but it has occurred to me that in addition to having the ordinary festivities usual on this occasion, we should also have something which will remain as a permanent record of this very important event in British history, and in having that permanent memorial I think we ought to try to make it of such a kind that it will be of lasting benefit not only to the present inhabitants of the Colony, but to the inhabitants of this Colony in times to come. We all know that Hongkong is growing rapidly in population, and that the recreation grounds now existing are far too overcrowded. In fact, there is nobody who has been a resident of any long standing in the Colony but fully realises the necessity for more extended recreation grounds, and therefore I think we could not have a better memorial of this auspicious occasion than to have a "King's Park" in order to commemorate the great event. (Applause.) I am not speaking to you now as a member of the Government, but as one of this Committee, and I would urge you very strongly to leave no stone unturned to obtain a King's Park. We have on the Kowloon side an excellent site, and I am perfectly certain that if the Committee makes an effort the first sod of this park should be turned on the day on which our King is crowned. In addition to having this park, we ought also to remember that we have a gracious Queen whose memory we would also like to commemorate, and I think, seeing how devoted she has always been to works having for their object the benefiting of the poverty-stricken and the poor, that we cannot do better than devote part of our subscriptions to forming a fund to be called, in honour of her name, "The Queen Alexandra Fund." I throw out these suggestions for the consideration I at least think they ought to receive. With regard to other matters—sport, gymkhana, reviews, illuminations, and so on—I feel certain, when I look round me and see the members of the Committee we have here with us, that these will be carried out in a manner which will reflect every credit not only on those who undertake them, but also on the Colony in which they will be celebrated. (Applause.)

Mr. SHEWAN—I beg to second the resolution just read by Mr. Stewart Lockhart, and I cordially endorse all the remarks he has made. I am not possessed of artistic sense enough to make any suggestions myself, but any suggestion that anyone has to make will be thoroughly threshed out in Committee, and I may say that whatever schemes we do adopt I am sure we will prove to His Excellency that his reliance on us is not misplaced. (Applause.)

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously, and the Committee then proceeded to elect an hon. treasurer and an hon. secretary.

Mr. DIXON proposed that Mr. J. R. M. Smith be appointed to the former office and Mr. E. A. Hewett to the latter, and this was

seconded by Mr. SHARP and carried with acclamation.

The next resolution dealt with the election of a Working Committee, whose duties, the CHAIRMAN intimated, would be to consider the various suggestions for the celebration of the Coronation and report to the full Committee what they thought should be done.

Mr. POATE—I beg to propose that the following gentlemen be elected to the Working Committee:—The Chairman (*ex officio*), the Hon. Sec. (*ex officio*), Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Hon. Director of Public Works, Hon. Harbour Master, Hon. Registrar-General, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, and Messrs. J. Barton, W. Danby, W. B. Dixon, C. Ford, Fung Wa Chun, Ho Tung, E. Osborne, A. Turner, and W. H. Wickham.

Hon. Dr. Ho KAI—I beg to second the resolution. I think that a Working Committee consisting of a dozen members or so will facilitate business, and I am sure that the members of this Committee will agree that it is very convenient also.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I think it would be better if the resolution stated that the Working Committee should have power to add to its number.

Mr. Ho TUNG was of the same opinion, and the resolution, as amended, was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN invited the members of the Working Committee to remain for a little to discuss ways and means, and the meeting dispersed.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 17th inst. in the Board Room. Present:—Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer of Health (President); Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General (Vice-President); Dr. F. W. Clark, Medical Officer of Health; Mr. Edward Osborne, Mr. Lau Chupak, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

REPORTS.

The second report for 1902 of the Quarterly Inspection Committee and the annual sanitary report for 1901 were laid on the table.

IMPURE WELL WATER.

There was laid on the table a report by Mr. F. Browne, the Government Analyst, in which he stated that he had by request analysed a sample of water taken from a well at 85, Wellington Street, and he was of opinion from the results obtained, that this water was so tainted with impurities as to be unfit for potable purposes and likely to prove injurious to health.

Mr. Osborne minuted:—"No more wells should be closed until we have a sufficient water supply. Better have slightly impure water than none at all. This well should not be closed but the owner made to line it properly."

The PRESIDENT—I think it would be better to avoid the use of water for potable purpose, where sewage contamination is shown to exist; otherwise there is a danger of typhoid and cholera.

Mr. OSBORNE—Is there no way to get out of the difficulty whilst maintaining the water supply?

The PRESIDENT—I think it would be impossible to do so here.

Mr. OSBORNE—It is a pity, I think, to close the wells if it is at all possible to improve them. This water is no doubt possibly dangerous to health under ordinary circumstances. But the Board have to bear in mind that the Chinese, as a rule, I think, drink no unboiled water, and therefore any little contamination that may be in this well would not affect those who may drink water from it: the chances are at least that it would not affect them; and considering the awful straits to which the Chinese poor are put at the present moment and have been for the last two or three months, to get water, I think we should not close these wells without the fullest investigation. I would suggest that this matter be referred back to the proper authority to see whether the well could not by some means be put into a state suitable for the supply of water.

Mr. LAU CHUPAK—I may at the same time, sir, call attention to the fact that the Chinese are now getting water from the nullahs on the hillside, and I believe the water from them is worse than that from this well. Crowds

of coolies go up the hillside and fetch water from the nullahs. I beg to second Mr. Osborne's motion.

Mr. OSBORNE—They are actually scooping water out of the big nullah alongside the Barracks.

The motion was carried.

WATER ANALYSES.

The Analyst's ordinary report bore that the results of analyses of Kowloon, Tytam and Pokfulam service showed the water to be of excellent quality.

Mr. Osborne minuted:—"It would be interesting to have an analysis of the water brought over from Chia Wan."

The PRESIDENT—This water has been analysed daily for the last fortnight and still maintains the same degree of purity as when first reported to the Board.

ADULTERATED MILK.

A report by the Government Analyst was laid on the table showing that during the quarter ended 31st March, 2 samples of milk had been examined and both found to be adulterated. All other various samples examined were found genuine—these comprising 1 of rum, 1 of brandy, 3 of whisky, 1 of gin, and 2 of beer.

Mr. Osborne minuted:—"Where did the adulterated milk come from? The public might like to know."

The Registrar-General minuted:—"Have prosecutions been instituted?"

The PRESIDENT—One of these samples came from a dairy in the New Territory, and the other from a private source. Proceedings are being taken in the second case, but it is not advisable to state the source from which the milk came, otherwise it might nullify these proceedings.

PLANS OF HOUSES.

A plan was submitted of two houses on H.H.I.L. 195 and 196, Bulkeley Street.

The Medical Officer of Health minuted:—"The corner house should be designed in the same way as the other two. I am not in favour of the bridges across the small yard. There should be a large window from living room into yard on each floor."

The Director of Public Works minuted:—"The corner house has ample provision of lighting, etc., without being made to correspond with the others. The bridges appear to be more in the nature of small balconies or hoods which would enable the windows to be kept open during rainy weather. The windows appear to measure 9 or 10 feet in height by 3½ feet wide, which is a large size. One of these is shown to each living room."

Mr. E. Osborne minuted:—"I agree with the Medical Officer of Health."

Dr. CLARK—This is an application for exemption in providing back-yards because of the existence of a 10 feet lane in the rear of the houses. The principle on which the Board has hitherto gone in these exemption cases, is that the kitchen should be extended across one-half of the width of the house and that the other half should be a yard thrown into the lane. That required a lane 15 feet, whereas this is only 10 feet. It is proposed to put a bridge across in the one case and to make no provision for the corner house. From one point of view, perhaps it is not necessary to have a recess of this kind in a corner house, but it makes a better design, a better house, when there is one. I have no doubt these recesses will be used for the reception of filth from the back of the house and will be kept clean by the scavenger. I therefore think it better to have the recess. As to the bridge, I consider that would be a great mistake. As regards the window to which Mr. Chatham refers, my minute refers to the ground floor, which has no window into the back yard but which has a door and which would have no back-light at all.

After some discussion over the plan, Dr. Clark's recommendations were adopted; the bridge however being approved but restricted to 2 feet width.

A plan showing the construction of two houses on K.I. Lot 707, Taikoktsui, was approved with slight modification.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The death-rate for the week ended 22nd March was reported to have been 16.8 per 1,000 of the population per annum as compared with 17.9 in the preceding week and 14.9 in the corresponding week of the previous year.

LIME-WASHING RETURNS.

A report was submitted showing that during the fortnight ended 29th March, 576 houses were lime-washed in the Central District.

This was all the public business.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held in the Chamber Room, City Hall, on Tuesday, the 1st April, 1902, at 4 p.m., Present: Sir Thomas Jackson (Chairman), Mr. C. S. Sharp (Vice-Chairman), Messrs. A. Haupt, E. A. Hewett, W. Poate, N. A. Siebs, H. E. Tomkins, Hon. T. H. Whitehead (*ex-officio*), and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary *pro tem*).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last monthly meeting (held 25th February) and the special meeting (held on the 11th March) were read and confirmed.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEES.

The following were elected on the Corresponding and Arbitration Committees respectively:—Corresponding Committee.—The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, and R. C. Wilcox.

Arbitration Committee.—Messrs. A. Haupt, E. A. Hewett, W. Poate, N. A. Siebs, and H. E. Tomkins.

ALLEGED DIFFERENTIAL DUTIES ON PAPER.

Read letter from the Tai Shing Paper Manufacturing Co., Ltd., complaining that their products are placed at a disadvantage with those made at Shanghai, being charged a higher duty.

It was decided to communicate with the Shanghai Chamber with a view to ascertain whether any and what ground exists for the imposition of the alleged differential duties on paper manufactured here and in Shanghai.

MEMORANDUM ON OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE CANTON RIVER.

A lengthy and exhaustive memorandum on the above question by Capt Lloyd, of the China Navigation steamer *Hankow*, was then considered. It was decided to forward copies of this document to the British Minister at Peking and to Sir Jas. Mackay, and to send a letter of thanks to the author for the trouble taken. Also to ask the Canton Chamber of Commerce to join in the representations to the Minister and Commissioner.

"THE CHINESE REVENUE AND THE NEW TREATY."

The SECRETARY stated that a pamphlet with the above title, by Mr. E. S. Little, of Shanghai, had been received and circulated. The pamphlet was a protest against an increased tariff from a merchant's point of view, with some suggested regulations for Mining in China. The author expressed the hope that this Chamber would take action on this question.

A NEW DEVELOPMENT IN THE CANTON RIVER TRADE.

The SECRETARY said that a new development in the direction of evading payment of Chinese duties had been brought to his notice. The *Ching fei*, a tax levied by the Viceroy of the Two Kwang on about thirty-four articles of import, carried in Chinese craft, has, since the Native Customs were placed under the Imperial Maritime Customs, been collected by the latter at Taishan Station, at the entrance to the Canton River. The tax is not a heavy one, but it is sufficiently appreciable to make it worth while to evade it if possible. A means to do so has been discovered by placing the junks under the German and American flags, the junkmasters receiving as authority a document stamped with the Consular seal at Canton, upon exhibition of which they were allowed to pass the Customs Station without payment of the *Ching-fei*. The British Consul at Canton is unable to give similar authorisation to junk and lorcha owners even when owned by British subjects, as the Harbour Master here would not grant a permit unless the vessels carried a certificated master. The fact therefore remains that it is possible—and the thing is being done—for a Chinese junk to leave the port of Hongkong under shelter of a foreign flag with the express purpose of evading payment of Chinese local duties, and at the same time trade is being diverted from its accustomed channels.

In reply to questions,

The SECRETARY said he obtained this informa-

tion from undoubted authority. He had also had it confirmed by the Harbour Master, who told him that the junks now left the harbour before hoisting the foreign flags under which they approached the Taishan Station.

After some discussion, it was decided to address the local Government on the subject, in the hope that they would devise some plan for putting a stop to this abuse of foreign flags and a British port.

CABLE RATES.

Read letter from the local Manager of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Co., in reply to the Chamber's letter of the 17th January, stating that the Company were not aware that any promise had been made to lower the tariff between Hongkong and Europe; they had under consideration a reduction of tariff for local telegrams between Australia and Hongkong, but had not been able to bring it into operation owing to the dilatoriness of the Federal Government in coming to an arrangement with them.

The CHAIRMAN then read a paragraph from a Singapore paper calling attention to an advertisement by the General Manager of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Co. of a reduction of rates from the 1st April in Singapore. The new rates were to be—To Europe, \$1.75 per word instead of \$2.25; to Canada, the Eastern States, Newfoundland, and United States, \$2.25 instead of \$2.75; and to San Francisco, \$2.50 instead of \$3. This, he thought, was a substantial reduction, and afforded good ground for asking for a reduction here. It was outrageous that we should be paying 5/- per word here when in Singapore they were paying little over half a crown.

The Committee concurred in these remarks, and it was decided to again address the local Manager of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company and point out the injustice of limiting the reductions to countries west of Hongkong.

THE METRIC SYSTEM OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Read circular letter from the Decimal Association, dated London, 10th February, enclosing pamphlet giving the main arrangement in favour of the system and a list of members of Parliament who are in accord with the aims of the Association.

AUSTRALIA TO LONDON VIA PORT DARWIN AND PORT ARTHUR.

A circular issued by the National Association to federalise the Northern Territory (South Australia), was laid upon the table, which has for its object advocacy of a short route to London, by railway, across Australia, from Port Darwin to Port Arthur by steamer, and thence across Siberia by rail to Europe.

QUARANTINE.

The Secretary reported that notices had been received from the Government of the imposition of quarantine against vessels leaving Hongkong for Manila, and of the prohibition of shipments from Bombay to Indo-China either directly or through Hongkong.

THE SECRETARYSHIP.

It was decided to advertise for applications for the post.

This was all the business of general interest before the meeting.

Mr. J. Roberts played a billiard match at the Country Club, Shanghai on Thursday, the 10th inst, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, with General Dorward, 1,000 up, the General receiving 700. The room was very cold, so much so that the spectators mostly wore overcoats, and this had an effect on the players at starting, but as the game proceeded it became more interesting. General Dorward was passed at 845 by his opponent, who won the match by 126. Mr. Roberts's best breaks were 266 and 104, the former being finished by a miscue. General Dorward played a plucky up-hill game, but the champion was going too fast for any amateur. After the conclusion of the match Mr. Roberts gave an interesting exhibition of fancy shots and then played three games of pyramids with Mr. A. P. Stokes, of which the latter won one game. As the white ball was larger than the red ones, the usual precision of the champion's shots was somewhat interfered with. On the night of the 11th at the Masonic Club, the champion played Mr. Brooks, winning easily in one hour and twenty minutes. His best break was 2:3, and he had very little opposition.

HON. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART'S IMPENDING DEPARTURE.

A largely-attended meeting in connection with the College of Medicine for Chinese was held in the Legislative Council Chamber at 4 p.m. on the 18th inst., for the purpose of presenting an address to the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., Rector of the College, on the occasion of his departure for Weihaiwei.

H.E. the Officer Administering the Government, Major-General W. J. Gascoigne, presided, and the others present, in addition to Mr. Stewart Lockhart, were Dr. Clark (Dean of the College), Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Dr. Thomson, Dr. R. Maclean Gibson, Mr. E. H. Sharp, Mr. D. Wood, Mr. F. Browne, Dr. Noble, Dr. Pearce, Dr. R. Gibson, and many students of the College.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the object for which you have all met here to-day, as I think everybody here knows, is to take farewell of Mr. Stewart Lockhart, whose departure shortly from the Colony I deplore quite as much as any of you here can do. I do not propose to detain you longer than these few words, because I know you wish to get to the actual business for which you have come here to-day; and therefore I will now call upon Dr. Clark, Dean of the College, to proceed with the meeting.

Dr. CLARK, in presenting the address to Mr. Stewart Lockhart, said—Your Excellency and gentlemen, the honour has fallen upon me of presenting, in the name of the Court, the Senate, and the past and present students of the Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese, a small token of our appreciation to our Rector, Mr. Stewart Lockhart, on the eve of his departure from those scenes wherein he has laboured for more than twenty years. The severance of old ties and friendships is at best but a saddening process, and I feel sure that, mingled with that justifiable pride at having been selected by His Gracious Majesty the King to govern the newest of our many British possessions in the Far East, Mr. Lockhart cannot but feel a sense of some great loss, some gap which can never again be bridged, that must ever temper the natural elation of one who has been called to wider spheres of action, and who leaves behind him the friendships of his youth and early manhood. Such a sense of loss, however, is even more keenly felt by those who are thus left behind, for upon these devolves the duty of carrying on the old routine, and, no easy task, of finding new helpers in the work that must be done. I need hardly remind you that Mr. Lockhart has been associated with our College from its first inception, and shares the no small honour of having worked for its advancement, in the early days of its history, with Manson, one of the great leaders of our glorious profession, and with those bye-gone worthies Stewart, Young, Chalmers and Francis, who also are now but names in the Temple of Fame. For seven years Mr. Lockhart has presided over the deliberations of our Court, and has furthered the aims of our College by every means in his power. His interest in the natives of China is proverbial, and it is not to be wondered at therefore that he saw clearly the immense benefits that must accrue to such of them as live among us, from the foundation of a school for the propagation of Western science and Western methods of treatment of the sick. We are taught that "learning originated in the East and thence spread its benign influence to the West," and it is but just the reverse that where the West has improved upon the East, where the little grain of knowledge has increased a hundred fold that the Mother of Wisdom should reap a share of the harvest. Our aim, as a College has been to spread the little knowledge that we have been privileged to acquire in our island home among one native fellow-citizens in this far-off Colony, and I think we may fairly claim that our roll of students and of diplomates bears ample evidence that our labours have not been in vain. Mr. Lockhart has done yeoman service in this cause and we have assembled to-day to bear testimony to that service and to wish him "God speed" in the work that lies before him in the future. Our address therefore is no empty platitude, but the genuine heartfelt wish of a little band of workers whose loss is

other's gain. With your permission, sir, I will now read the address and will ask you to hand it to Mr. Lockhart in the name of those who have assembled here to-day to do him honour.

Dr. Clark then handed the address, which was bound in a handsome cover faced with silver, to His Excellency, and he in turn presented it to Mr. Stewart Lockhart, who bowed his acknowledgments.

The address, which was extensively signed, read as follows:—

To the Honourable

JAMES HAIDANE STEWART LOCKHART, Companion of the most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Colonial Secretary of the Colony of Hongkong, Rector of the Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese. Hongkong, 18th April, 1902.

SIR.—Before you finally sever your long and distinguished connection with Hongkong and particularly with the College of Medicine for Chinese, we, the Members of the Court, Senate and General Council, and past and present students, resident in the Colony, desire to convey to you our grateful acknowledgment and warm appreciation of the many and valuable services which you have rendered to the College since its inception. You are associated with Manson, Stewart, Young, Chalmers, Francis, Cantlie and others, in the founding of the Institution in 1887, when you accepted the office of Treasurer. This office you held until 1895, when you were elected to succeed His Honour Sir Fielding Clarke, Chief Justice, as Rector of the College. You have not rested content with occupying a purely honorary position, but as President of the Court and executive Head of the College you have actively interested yourself in all the various schemes that have been proposed for the furtherance of the objects of the College and for its development. While rejoicing that you have been called to a position of greater responsibility and honour by His Majesty the King, we cannot refrain from an expression of our regret at the loss sustained by the College in your departure from the Colony; and we desire to assure you that you carry with you our hearty good wishes for your future welfare and for your early promotion to yet more important spheres of public usefulness.

Dr. KWAN KING LEUNG, one of the licentiates of the College, then spoke. He said—Your Excellency and gentlemen, on behalf of past students of the College I desire to say a few words expressive of our profound respect and veneration for our Rector, Mr. Stewart Lockhart, and offering to him our sincere and hearty thanks for his distinguished labours for the good of the College and of the students, since its foundation until now. Mr. Lockhart has taken a great interest in this College, and anything which tended to its welfare he has ever been ready to do. His promotion is thoroughly well-deserved, but his place as Rector will be very difficult to fill. We sincerely wish Mr. Lockhart every happiness in his new sphere of usefulness, and we doubt not that before many years have passed we shall hear of his further promotion in the public service of his King and country. (Applause.)

Speaking on behalf of present students of the College, Mr. HO KO TSUN said—Your Excellency and gentlemen, in the remarks contained in the speech so eloquently delivered by Dr. Kwan King Leung on behalf of past students of the College I heartily concur, but on behalf of myself and on behalf of my fellow-students now prosecuting their professional studies in the College, I am desirous of making some additional observations. No one can appreciate as we do the great services which have been rendered to the College by Mr. Lockhart. As its Rector he neglected no means and opportunities of increasing its efficiency, he always had the welfare of the students at heart, and everything likely to benefit the profession had due and careful consideration. We scarcely know how to express to Mr. Lockhart our obligations and thanks, but we can assure him that our gratitude is both deep and sincere, and we shall long cherish his memory in our hearts; and our earnest wish is, that wherever Mr. Lockhart goes may he and his have perfect happiness, good health, and prosperity. (Applause.)

Mr. STEWART LOCKHART, whose rising was greeted with prolonged applause, and who replied at great length, expressed his appreciation of the complimentary remarks that had been made concerning himself, and thanked

His Excellency for being present and taking such an active part in the proceedings, thereby showing his sympathy with the Chinese College of Medicine. With regard to the kind sentiments which had been expressed and also embodied in the address, he could only say that coals of fire had been heaped on his head, because, as far as the institution was concerned, any prosperity that had attended it was not due to him, but to the staff, past and present, of doctors and students. Therefore, when he said that coals of fire had been heaped on his head, he meant that he was being given credit and praise for that which he had not done. That credit and that praise must be awarded to the lecturers and professors who had attended at the College and laboured without the least hope of reward, actuated solely and simply by a desire to further the interests of the profession of which they were such distinguished ornaments. To them, continued the speaker, thanks was chiefly due for having encouraged and carried on the College of Medicine over a period of fifteen years. Dealing with the career of the College since its formation in 1887 by Dr. Manson, when, curiously enough, said Mr. Stewart Lockhart, His Excellency's predecessor in office, Major-General Cameron, who then also occupied the position of Major-General Gascoigne to-day, that of the Officer Administering the Government of this Colony, occupied the chair, he said that the institution had had its struggles, as had been anticipated. Chief of these was the want of a local habitation, but one gentleman kindly came forward and undertook to provide a building if a sufficient endowment could be found. Unfortunately, however, no endowment was forthcoming, but the College was not discouraged, and carried on its good work. Now the Government had at last recognised the value of that work, and in this year's Estimates was inserted a sum which would give a slight honorarium to those engaged in the prosecution of that work. It must not be supposed that this honorarium was anything like a meet reward for such services, but it was an indication that the Government recognised and appreciated the labours of the institution. Besides granting this sum in the Estimates, the Government had also undertaken to establish a dispensary in the western part of the city, in charge of which would be placed one of the diplomates of the College of Medicine for Chinese. This, everybody would agree, was a step in the right direction, especially in view of the known antipathy of the Chinese to Western treatment. Continuing, he expressed the hope that the College would have a brilliant future. It had had and was still having many difficulties to face, not the least of which, as had already been said, was the want of a local habitation. The institution was filling a very great want in the Colony, and it would be remembered that during a discussion some time ago in the Sanitary Board, it was mentioned that it would be an excellent thing if graduates of the College could be obtained to instruct the native community in sanitary matters. There was not a sufficient number of students at present for that purpose, but it was probable that in the future they would be greatly useful in helping the Government in the direction indicated. As matters stood at present, students who had qualified in the College were immediately employed by the Straits Settlements Government to the Colonial Secretary of which Mr. Stewart Lockhart said he had written asking if his Government would be disposed to join in a scheme with the Government of this Colony to establish a College in which the lecturers would be as at present—volunteers willing to give their services without hope of reward. No answer had yet been received from the Straits Settlements, but he trusted that it would be a favourable one, because it would considerably lessen the difficulty of establishing a proper College, as the Straits Settlements would then join with this Government in sharing the expenses of the institution. After thanking Dr. Kwan King Leung and Mr. Ho Ko Tsun for their eulogistic references to himself, Mr. Stewart Lockhart addressed the students in words of advice and encouragement, and said he trusted that in the future they would use every effort to maintain the high reputation of

the College of Medicine for Chinese. He once again thanked everyone for what had been said regarding himself, and his only regret was that he felt he in no way deserved it. (Loud applause.)

Dr. Ho Kai—I rise with great pleasure to propose a vote of thanks to His Excellency, who has been so kind to all of us as to come here to-day and preside over us, thus showing, as has been remarked, his sympathy with the institution with which we all have the honour of being associated. (Loud applause.)

His EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen, I beg to thank you with my whole heart for having so kindly received the mention of my name. It was a very great pleasure, believe me—in fact, I consider it a great honour—to have been asked to come and preside here. It gives me another opportunity of expressing the great sense of obligation I feel I am under to Mr. Lockhart for the able and loyal co-operation with which he has worked with me during the time—I grant you, a very short time—I have had the high honour of administering the Government. Up to the time of my coming to that high office, I had only known Mr. Lockhart in pleasant, social intercourse, but since I have worked with him I have recognised the loyal desire he has not only to do his duty by his immediate chief, but to do his duty thoroughly in the interests of the Colony, and I therefore would venture to take the opportunity of thanking him for his loyal co-operation with me in my work. As regards myself the longer I have the honour of administering the Government of the Colony, every day do I feel more and more how grateful I am for the opportunity of being placed in that high position. I learn every day new things connected with the civil administration of the Colony, things which are of daily increasing interest to me, and among them this College of Medicine, which I say it in all humility—I knew very little of before I had the honour of administering the Government. I know very little now about all these things, and it is a great privilege to me to assist at anything in connection with which my knowledge is not so extensive as I could wish it to be. I therefore simply say that every time I am asked to take the chair at such meetings as this, I always welcome the opportunity, because it gives me a great opportunity of learning something of the working of the Colony. (Loud applause.)

This concluded the proceedings.

PROFESSOR SIMPSON'S REPORT ON PLAGUE.

Professor Simpson's second memorandum on plague in Hongkong was submitted to the Legislative Council on the 10th inst. One of the circumstances, he says, that tend to keep up the recurrence of plague, is its intimate intercourse with infected areas; another is that Hongkong is a great emporium, with hongs and godowns filled with stores and infested with rats susceptible to the disease; a third is the poor, class of people of which the greater part of Hongkong consists; and a fourth is the conditions under which a large proportion of this class live.

In the older part of the town, there is a greater population per acre than in any town in the East he is acquainted with. In No. 5 District, for instance, there is over 840 persons per acre, which is more than three times the worst and most crowded area of Calcutta. The endemicity of plague in Hongkong as distinguished from re-infection, is kept up mainly by infected rats in the godowns and stores and in these dark and insanitary places. The insanitary conditions of the older streets and buildings is a legacy of the past.

With reference to the water-supply and sewerage, it was his opinion that the sewers and small covered storm-water channels should not be dependent on the ordinary water-supply for flushing. It might, however, be said at once that neither the scarcity of water nor the system of the drainage has anything to do with the plague epidemics. He had only one suggestion to make with regard to the water-works and that was that after filtration of the water at the Albany filter-beds it should be received into covered reservoirs. As to the measures which are feasible and which should be taken to

prevent the inhabitants suffering annually from plague, it is impossible to pull down the whole of that portion of the town inhabited by the Chinese and reconstruct it or any considerable part of it, though there are districts that must be treated in this way. Under these circumstances it is important to concentrate every effort as regards plague prevention on the chief modes by which it spreads, and on organisation for its prevention.

The proximity of Hongkong to the Chinese coast and the very intimate intercourse between the districts of Canton, the West River and Hongkong, together with the fact that the prevalence of the disease in the towns and villages of Southern China is not notified, renders the problem of preventing the importation of the disease specially difficult. He would suggest, if it can be arranged with the Foreign Office, that the Medical Officers of the Consulates in different parts, or the Consul himself, might submit a weekly bulletin as to the infected towns or villages in his district in Southern China. Arrangements might also be possible with some of the leading medical missionaries for a similar bulletin, and it might be possible, with the concurrence of Sir Robert Hart and the Chinese authorities, for a weekly bulletin on this subject to be sent by the Medical Officers of the Customs or by the Commissioners of Customs of the different districts. These would at least assist in giving the Government timely information of infected villages and towns. There are at least four months in the year, from the middle of January to the middle of April, which are dangerous, and for these four months, or even longer, special precautions might readily be adopted, particularly if it is known what villages in Southern China are infected.

Medical inspection of the steamers loses much of its value, because the voyage by steamer is so short in its duration. In the Colony of Hongkong surveillance would be useless because of the very large numbers entering, because of the Chinaman having more than one name, of the probability of the wrong address being given and the impossibility of maintaining an effective watch over the accumulating numbers. A modified system of inspection should, however, be introduced during the first months of the year. Ships and junks coming from the Chinese coast, more particularly those coming from districts in which plague is known to exist even in the slightest degree, should be boarded by boarding officers previous to their admission to the harbour to ascertain if there is sickness of any kind on board, and if there is the slightest suspicion of sickness, whether supposed to be infectious or not, and there is no medical man on board, the ship or junk should be visited by one of the Medical Officers assigned to the port for that purpose. Such Medical Officers and in fact all the Health Officers should be part of the Sanitary Department and should report direct to the Medical Officer of Health. He was informed by the Harbour Master that three or four boarding officers would be sufficient for the purpose. Personally, he was further of opinion that the Canton steamers—native and European—should, during the first six months of the year, carry at their companies' own expense a medical man who might be a Chinese graduate, educated at the Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese, to examine the Chinese passengers on route and report to the boarding officers. Special measures should also be taken for the systematic destruction of rats on incoming steamers and junks from the Chinese coast, from infected ports, and which go to the wharves or into the docks. As regards the thousands of emigrants brought into the town from the districts of Pakhoi, Hoihow, Canton, Amoy, Swatow and the Chinese coast generally to be despatched to Singapore and elsewhere, the protection of this Colony does not appear to have come into the arrangements. He would advise that emigration be regulated as it is elsewhere, and with this in view, arrangements should be made that the emigrant-houses are known, registered and kept under special control; that they are inspected daily, that their sanitary condition as regards cleanliness, superficial area, cubic space, sunlight and ventilation, are thoroughly looked after, that a proper register of the names of the inmates is kept by the emigrant-house keeper, and that the state of

health of every emigrant in this Colony is also known, and this can only be obtained by regular medical inspection of the emigrants in the emigrant-houses and immediate compulsory notification of all sickness, whether infectious or not, by the emigrant-house keeper.

More serious even than the non-reporting of cases is that a large proportion of the cases are found dead in the street or floating in the harbour. In 1899, no less than 38 per cent. were thus found, in 1899, 40 per cent., and in 1900, 37 per cent., and this occurred notwithstanding the employment of special constables—soldiers, police, and others—for the express purpose of preventing it. Until this is put a stop to, there is no chance of plague being effectually dealt with. The throwing of dead bodies into the street is much worse than leaving the dead body in the house, and all the inmates abandoning the house. His professional duty lay in pointing out the fact that, while this continues, plague will not be got rid of in Hongkong. It is for the Government to devise an efficient method to prevent it, or to check it to a minimum extent and which shall not have any more serious drawback than the plague itself. He had come to the conclusion that the Chinese in Hongkong must be treated in this respect more in accordance with Chinese customs. The responsibility should be thrown on themselves. He would recommend that the City of Victoria and Kowloon be divided into districts and sub-districts, and each sub-district into street, and if there is a long street sub-divide this again. Then, that each householder be served with a notice pointing out the importance to his own welfare of the plague being prevented and the necessity of his complying with the law and notifying to the Central Sanitary Office, or office of the medical officer in the district, or the police, any case of sickness or death in his house, and also warning him that, in the event of a dead body being found in his street, that not only he but all the householders in that street will be subjected to a fine which will be placed in a common fund to defray the expenses of providing watchmen, blocking up the street, and of taking other measures to prevent the spread of plague. It is essential and only fair at the same time that every household in the Colony should be informed by means of hand-bills what are the causes and symptoms of plague and what should be done in the event of plague breaking out in the household. He would recommend that, with some modifications, at least 100,000 copies be printed on coloured and attractive looking paper and that they should not only be distributed so that every householder, shopkeeper, caretaker and godown holder should be given one or more copies but that a copy should be posted on every door of a household, in a conspicuous place in every junk, sampan, native vessel, steamer, craft, workshop, restaurant and factory. In this hand-bill special prominence should be given to the destruction of rats and equal prominence to the addresses of the places where sickness can be notified. Enormous sized posters should also be placed in prominent places in the streets and also in the more public resorts of the Chinese. A conference of Chinese doctors should also be held and the necessity of notification and early reporting should be explained to them; similarly the Chinese contractors of labour and, if possible, the heads of the guilds, should be made fully acquainted with the wishes of the Government.

Another and additional method of improving the intelligence branch of the plague department and locating the disease is the bacteriological examination of all rats daily secured by the rat catchers. Having organised the machinery for the early discovery of human and rat plague together with the machinery for tracing out its ramifications and conditions of extension, the plague department is in a position to deal with the disease.

It is important to thoroughly grasp the fact that plague spreads slowly at first whether among rats or human beings. When an epidemic once gets beyond a certain stage none of the measures which were useful at the beginning will influence the duration of its destructiveness. Measures such as the vacating of a whole block, on account of rat or human plague, will prove successful if applied promptly and at an early stage, but cannot be recommended later on

because of their impracticability. The abandonment of the block is a mere temporary measure and of little permanent value unless the rats in the block are destroyed and the houses made rat-proof. The filling up of the rat runs in the footings with glass and cement and a three or four inch layer of cement on and at the sides of the footings and on the floor are necessary to render the ground floors safe. As in the vacating of large blocks, which is quite feasible and useful at the commencement but which is impracticable later on, so it is with the isolation of contacts. After a certain stage, it is impracticable to provide for contacts and keep them under observation. The vacating of the house is the chief measure. When this is done promptly it has been ascertained that the number of contacts falling ill afterwards forms but a small percentage. If arrangements are made for the disinfection of the clothing and effects of the contacts and they are thoroughly examined by a medical man, they can be allowed to go to certain districts, provided it is not a case of pneumonic plague which, at the highest computation, forms a very small percentage of the plague cases. In such a case the contacts from the floor should be provided for. The system until lately practiced of vacating a floor for six hours only during the fumigation should, therefore, be replaced by a complete vacation of the building in all cases.

If a case of plague occurs in a house a medical inspector with an interpreter should immediately visit the house and make as careful an enquiry as possible into its history and the manner in which it was probably caused. If it is a case of pneumonic plague the inmates of the floor should be treated as contacts and isolated for 10 days. If not a case of pneumonic plague the clothes and effects of the inmates of the floor should be disinfected by steam and they should be permitted to leave. If it is possible to get them to report themselves for ten days at the Sanitary Office of the district in which they reside, it is useful; if not possible then the risk run is after all small. The house itself should then be vacated; and by the house he did not mean the one room which may contain half a dozen families, but the whole building; and a bye-law should be passed without delay to give effect to this. The building having been vacated, the floors, ceilings and walls should be thoroughly examined for rat runs; rat poison and rat-traps should be laid down for one night and then the building should be cleansed and disinfected. Usually it will be found necessary that the owner should make the house rat-proof and put it in a sanitary condition before it is re-occupied. If a sufficiency of light and air cannot by structural alterations be admitted, it should be declared on that account unfit for human habitation and should not be re-occupied. The rats in the adjoining houses should be destroyed and examined bacteriologically and, if found necessary, these houses should also be rendered rat-proof and altered so as to admit a sufficiency of air and light. A similar procedure of vacating the house should be carried out when rats infected with plague are discovered therein, or when several infected rats are found in the adjoining street.

The plague work should be independent of the ordinary sanitary routine work of the day, and therefore requires a special establishment which can work in conjunction with the Sanitary Department and get the benefit of its assistance. But the two should not be amalgamated to that degree that one set of duties are lost in the other. The director and executive head of both should be the Medical Officer of Health for the Colony. His time must not, however, be occupied with clerical work, which should be relegated to a capable head clerk or if necessary several clerks working in his office. He also recommends that the weekly bulletins received by the Government and all official documents relating to the health of the Colony, or to outbreaks of disease in other countries, should be sent direct to the Medical Officer of Health; while official documents relating purely to administrative work should be addressed to the administrative President of the Sanitary Board.

The duties of the special Plague Department summarised, are:—

- (1) The discovery, location and microscopical examination of plague cases whether—(a) rat plague: (b) human plague.

- (2) The tracing out of the history of the human plague and the connection with others, if any, of each case and the following out the course of rat plague.
- (3) The removal of patient and disinfection of clothes, &c.
- (4) The examination of contacts and disinfection of the contacts' effects.
- (5) The vacating of buildings.
- (6) The destruction of rats and the cleansing of infected buildings.
- (7) The seeing that infected buildings and adjoining buildings are made rat-proof and that air and light is admitted into these buildings.
- (8) The careful supervision as regards cleanliness and freedom from rats of the houses provided by the Government for people removed from any block of buildings.
- (9) The boarding of vessels when required and inspection of sick persons.
- (10) The establishment of a quarantine station for the observation of any sick persons coming by boat from an infected district.
- (11) The inspection of the quays and reporting to the Harbour Master any relaxation or infringement of the regulations relating to the precautions in the harbour to prevent rats from coming on shore.
- (12) The general destruction of rats in godowns and elsewhere. For this purpose several of Clayton's machines for pumping gas would be useful. The distribution of rat poison in the storm-water channels, houses, quays, stores, &c.; the superintendence of the work of the rat catchers; the preparation of cultures of *Danzon bacillus* and its distribution.
- (13) The special destruction of rats in infected areas.
- (14) Preventive inoculation with Haffkine's prophylactic.
- (15) The keeping of the necessary registers and notices, also bulletins received from Southern China and the issuing of the weekly reports.

In order, however, that the President and Sanitary Board shall be able to effectively deal with these questions, it is necessary that the Public Health and Building Ordinances shall give them the necessary powers. He had already mentioned that the internal design of Chinese houses as constructed in this Colony is insanitary. The rooms, as a rule, are far too deep, the object of this depth being to sub-divide each room into a number of cubicles for the accommodation of families or lodgers. Though there may be windows at each end of the rooms, the great depth materially obstructs the light. In any future Ordinance and in any future sales of land the Government should have powers to prescribe the type of house to be built in different parts of the Colony. The long deep rooms without any lateral windows to them are very objectionable. It is obvious also that rules and regulations suitable for European houses at the Peak are not suitable for Chinese houses or for houses of the warehouse and office class. Powers should also be obtained to regulate the maximum proportion of the roofed over area of any domestic building hereafter erected in such a manner that every such building shall have an adequate open space attached to it. This open space should in future be at least one-third of the total area, and the streets and so-veging lanes should not be included in calculating this total area. Back yards should bear a minimum proportion to the height of the houses and not as now to the depth. The depth of a house should be regulated by its lateral windows; the objection to deep rooms is removed with lateral windows. No cubicles should be allowed in new houses unless each cubicle is provided by a window. In old houses the cubicles should be gradually eliminated except perhaps in top storeys, where skylights and special arrangements for ventilation can be introduced. To prevent overcrowding, the superficial area or floor area should be raised from thirty to fifty feet per head.

There are other matters which call for attention, but probably the foregoing will suffice to indicate that many important measures require to be enforced and that the details of them can only be properly considered and efficiently carried out by having an administrative President of the Sanitary Board whose whole time is devoted to this work and whose title might be "Sanitary Commissioner" for the Colony.

MR. CHADWICK'S REPORT.

Mr. Osbert Chadwick, the sanitary expert, has issued his preliminary report upon sanitation in Hongkong. His conclusions are as follows:—

(a) The sewerage system has been carried out, in general accordance with the principles laid down by myself in 1890.

(b) On the whole the system is working well though there are some defects, not however difficult to remedy.

(c) Deposit accumulates in the low-level sewers. This is not sewage, but road detritus and other solid substances, which ought not to enter the sewerage system.

(d) The entrance of improper solids into the sewers is principally due to two causes—want of care in scavenging and improper construction of the sewer-gulleys.

(e) Sewer-gulleys ought to be mapped and provided with close barred gratings.

(f) Flushing is sufficient in the upper and steeper parts of the sewerage system.

(g) More use should be made of the water of nullahs for flushing purposes, but this should be reserved mainly for the drains.

(h) It is probable that salt-water flushing is desirable for the low-level sewers. This is, however, a question, upon which I must reserve my opinion, pending further investigation.

(i) The materials and appliances now used for house-sewers are of indifferent quality. Pipes should be inspected and tested at a depot, before use. A supply of standard goods should be imported.

(j) The whole drainage system requires careful reform. All unnecessary covered drains should be abolished.

(k) To avoid division of authority, bringing about to some extent the evils described under (c), it is desirable that the maintenance, that is cleansing and flushing of the sewerage system be transferred from the Public Works Department, which has a miserably insufficient staff, to that department of the Sanitary Board, which has the supervision of the scavenging (the Medical Officer of Health). Under the expression drain I mean and include all storm-water channels and nullahs whether covered or open, within the urban area.

(l) The transfer of the maintenance of sewers and drains from the Public Works Department to the Sanitary Board will not necessitate any material augmentation of the staff.

(m) New work and structural alterations in connection with sewers and drains should be carried out by the Public Works Department, as heretofore.

(n) Scavenging is efficiently performed, saving as regards the matter referred to under (l).

(o) As regards surface crowding and insanitary dwellings, the state of the town is rather worse than it was twenty years ago.

(p) No amount of external sanitation will absolutely avoid the recurrence of epidemics, so long as a large proportion of the dwellings are insanitary and overcrowded.

(q) To improve insanitary dwellings extensive resumption and re-construction will be necessary.

(r) Resumption and re-construction cannot be remunerative, so long as full market prices are paid for insanitary property.

(s) If on new areas, only sanitary buildings are to be erected, the value of the land will be decreased.

(t) The Public Works staff is much undermanned in every branch, both technical and clerical.

The proclamation allowing marriage between Manchus and Chinese and advising the disuse of the foot-binding custom has been posted up at Ichang. There are very few large-footed women in this part of China. The foot-binding custom is universal. Already, through the influence of the Christian Church, many Christian families do not bind the feet of the girls. We sympathise, says the *N.C. Daily News*, with those who have not moral courage to neglect this custom, as large-footed girls can't find husbands and have also much abuse to endure from outsiders. Perhaps this proclamation may stop the reviling of large-footed women and girls. If only the richer families took up the subject and gave up the custom, foot-binding would soon be a thing of the past.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION.

The report of the Commission appointed to enquire into the Public Works Department of Hongkong was laid on the table at the meeting on the 10th inst. of the Legislative Council, as follows:—

1. A Commission was appointed by His Excellency the Governor to enquire into the Public Works Department on the 11th October last.

2. The Commissioners originally appointed were as follows:—Honourable J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G. (Chairman); Honourable H. E. Pollock, K.C.; Honourable J. Thurburn; Colonel L. F. Brown, R.E.; Robert G. Shewan, Esq. Owing to his having to leave the Colony, the Honourable H. E. Pollock resigned his seat on the Commission, and Mr. G. C. C. Master was appointed to fill the vacancy. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe was appointed Secretary. The first meeting was held on the 18th October, 1901, and the last on the 18th March, 1902. Ten meetings were held altogether. An unavoidable delay arose, as it was deemed advisable to examine as a witness Mr. Chadwick, the Sanitary Expert, who only arrived in the Colony on the 28th of February and did not appear before the Commission until the 13th of March. Thirty witnesses in all were examined by the Commission, including all the Senior Officers and Overseers of the Public Works Department and most of the leading Engineers and Architects engaged in private practice in the Colony, who are brought into intimate relations with that Department.

3. The Commission made a careful enquiry into the duties and responsibilities of the Public Works Department with a view to being in a position to report on the matters specially referred to it, viz:—

(a) The constitution and sufficiency of the staff.

(b) The advisability of increasing such staff or of making any changes in its personnel.

(c) Generally what changes should be made in the working of the Department.

4-5. A careful perusal of the evidence taken by the Commission will show that it is clear that the staff, as at present constituted, is not sufficient to discharge efficiently the varied and important duties entrusted to it.

6. An instructive Statement is attached by Mr. Chatham to his Report of the 25th September, 1901, in which he makes proposals for increasing the staff of his Department. That statement shows the amount of estimated and actual expenditure on account of public works from the year 1894 to 1900 and reveals the fact that during the period under review, owing to insufficiency of staff, it has not been possible to expend the money voted in the Estimates.

The Director of Public Works states:—“From this statement it will be seen that the estimated expenditure for 1901 is almost exactly double the actual expenditure for 1894, whilst the estimates for 1902 show an increase of \$80,000 over those of 1901. Comparing the estimates for 1902 with the actual expenditure for 1897, when the staff numbered 10, the increase is seen to be nearly \$400,000, whilst the staff has been increased by one solitary member, consisting at the present time of the Assistant Director of Public Works, 3 Executive Engineers, 6 Assistant Engineers, and 1 Draftsman. It must be unnecessary for me to point out that the expenditure for this year will fall far short of the estimated amount, notwithstanding the fact that all the drawings required in connection with the Law Courts and the Governor's Peak Residence, and the requisition for materials for the same, are being supplied by outside architectural firms. Equally, it will be impossible for the Department to overtake the programme of works drawn up for 1902, unless it be materially strengthened without delay. In this way, works which are considered of great urgency are falling into arrear, and if the Department is not to be rendered capable of keeping pace with the greatly increased demands upon it, the consequence to the Colony generally will be most serious.”

7. The Commission is of opinion that this statement shows clearly that the staff is not sufficient to carry out the works entrusted to it. But that opinion is also supported by the

evidence of Mr. Chatham and the other members of his staff who were examined as witnesses, and also by the evidence of the engineers and architects in private practice. Mr. Chatham and the other members of his staff in their evidence show, beyond a doubt, that work is neglected owing to the department being undermanned, and the engineers and architects complain of unnecessary delays to which they have been subjected and which are acknowledged by Mr. Chatham as due to insufficiency of staff and want of time to overtake the increasing amount of work. Mr. Chadwick also is of opinion that the staff is not sufficient, and requires to be increased.

RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO STAFF.

8. The Commission, being satisfied not only of the absolute necessity in the interests of the Colony that the staff should be increased in order to overtake the work entrusted to it, begs to make the following recommendations as to increase and change in the personnel of the Department.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

9. It is clear from the evidence taken that the Director of Public Works is at present so overwhelmed with his duties that he is tied to his desk and has no time for the work of supervision, which, in the opinion of the Commission, is of supreme importance if the Department is to be carried on efficiently. Indeed, the Commission is unable to understand how the work of the Department can be performed thoroughly and effectively in the absence of such supervision. The Commission, therefore, strongly recommends that steps be taken at once to relieve the Head of the Department of all routine work and other duties which can be discharged by the Assistant Director of Public Works. Mr. Chatham is of opinion that such a course will enable him to devote time to the exercise of general supervision, which, in the opinion of the Commission, is essential.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

10. Owing to the promotion of Mr. Chatham to be Director of Public Works, this post is at present vacant. The Commission recommends that the vacancy be filled without delay and that the officer selected for the post should be one of experience and activity and possessed of powers of organisation.

MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS, ROADS, ETC.

11. Mr. Chatham is of opinion that an additional Assistant Engineer should be appointed to assist in maintenance work generally, including roads, and that another European Overseer should be appointed to supervise the roads inside the City of Victoria. The evidence showed that the staff, as at present constituted, is not sufficient to exercise proper supervision over the roads, and the Commission is, therefore, in favour of increasing the staff as proposed. The Commission took a great deal of evidence regarding the unsatisfactory condition of the roads, especially in the City of Victoria. The evidence regarding roads shows that road-making in this Colony is not an easy matter, and that opinions vary as to the best mode of constructing roads, and the most suitable materials to be used in such construction. Amidst such a variety of opinion it is difficult to arrive at a definite conclusion, but, as the present condition of the roads cannot be regarded as satisfactory, the Commission would urge the necessity of every attempt being made to bring them into a state creditable to the Colony. In view of the evidence of Mr. Chadwick as to the asphalt road laid under his instructions at Malta, which has worn so well, and of the evidence of other witnesses as to the desirability of giving wood pavement a trial, the Commission recommends that a portion of a road in a busy thoroughfare be laid with asphalt and another portion with wood pavement with a view to ascertaining whether roads constructed of either material are likely to prove a success in this Colony. The attention of the Director of Public Works should also be directed to the evidence given before the Commission regarding roads, as the preponderating weight of that evidence tends to show that the present mode of constructing roads is faulty.

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

12. The evidence of Mr. Farrell makes it clear that he has not time to attend to the work involved in the laying and maintenance of telegraphs and telephones in addition to the duties

of supervising the roads outside the City of Victoria. Mr. Chatham is also of opinion that one Overseer should devote his entire time to telegraphs and telephones. The Commission endorses that opinion and recommends its adoption.

Mr. Tooker recommends that iron poles should be substituted for the timber poles now in use. Mr. Chatham also advises the same course, which the Commission thinks should be followed.

CEMETERY.

13. In view of the shifting nature of the population of Hongkong, the Commission strongly recommends that the care of all the monuments in the Cemetery should be undertaken by the Government—a recommendation which it has the less hesitation in making, as the estimated extra expenditure involved is trifling.

BUILDING ORDINANCE.

14. A new Building Ordinance has been drafted and is at present before the Legislative Council. It is not, therefore, necessary for the Commission to enter into details regarding that measure, which is now being carefully considered by the public and will be fully discussed elsewhere. The question of the staff required to carry out the Building Ordinance, so far as the Public Works Department is concerned, is one which comes within the purview of the Commission. The present staff consists of 1 Executive Engineer, 1 Assistant Engineer, and 1 Overseer.

The increase in the staff proposed by Mr. Chatham is two Inspectors or Overseers.

The Commission is not certain whether the increase proposed will be sufficient, but it might be given a trial, and, if it proves insufficient, the staff should be still further strengthened.

WATER AND DRAINAGE.

15. Mr. Chadwick is of opinion that Water and Drainage should be reconstituted as a separate Department independent of the Public Works Department, whilst Mr. Chatham considers that such a separation is undesirable, but recommends that, whilst Water and Drainage remains a sub-department of the Public Works Department, it should be strengthened by appointing one Executive Engineer to be in charge of the Water only and another Executive Engineer to be in charge of the Drainage, instead of having only one Executive Engineer in charge of both Water and Drainage as at present, and by the appointment of a more responsible Clerk to take charge of the Water accounts. Whilst fully sensible of the value of the opinion of an expert of such experience as Mr. Chadwick, the Commission is of opinion that, with a view to concentration and to the saving of increased expense, which almost invariably results from the creation of separate departments, it would be well to follow the advice of Mr. Chatham and to strengthen the staff engaged on Water and Drainage in the manner proposed by him, but not to reconstitute it as a separate department.

As to the general question of the water-supply, though it has not been directly referred to it for enquiry and report, the Commission ventures to invite attention to the evidence given regarding it by the various witnesses. The evidence shows that provision for increased water-supply has not been made so rapidly as the necessity of the case demanded.

The Commission regards the questions of water-supply as one of immediate and pressing urgency, and desires to record its opinion that steps should be taken forthwith to put in hand such schemes as can be most rapidly carried out with a view to placing the Colony well ahead of its requirements instead of allowing it to lag behind in that respect. The question is not only one of present urgency, but one which concerns the future. The importance of not only providing against actual requirements but also possible future wants cannot be too strongly insisted on, as the prosperity of the Colony and the welfare of its inhabitants now and in the future are intimately connected with an adequate supply of water.

LIGHTING.

16. The Commission is of opinion that the lighting of the Queen's Road between Fletcher Street and Arsenal Street should be improved.

LAND WORK.

17. The evidence given to the Commission shows that the work of the Department as regards land has not been carried out in a manner

satisfactory to the public. There have been numerous complaints of delay especially recently, and Mr. Chatham confesses that such complaints are justified. He, however, points out that the staff dealing with land has not been properly constituted, rendering it impossible to overtake the works. For some considerable period—about two years—the work had been conducted by the Officer who had hitherto filled the post of Land Bailiff. He is of opinion, however, that with the staff as now constituted, consisting of a Land Surveyor, an Assistant Surveyor and a Land Bailiff, there ought to be no difficulty in carrying on the work in a satisfactory manner. From the evidence of Mr. King, Land Bailiff, it seems that the co-operation between the Public Works Department and the Police, who can give much valuable assistance in the direction of preventing illegal squatting on land, has not been so close as is desirable. The Commission feels sure that it will be sufficient merely to call attention to this matter to secure closer co-operation in future.

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

18. Mr. Hughes, in his evidence, drew attention to the want of office accommodation. This matter is receiving attention, and it is hoped by Mr. Chatham that he will be able to provide accommodation sufficient for the staff recommended by him.

ENTRUSTING GOVERNMENT WORK TO PRIVATE FIRMS.

19. One question on which a good deal of evidence was given was whether it is desirable to entrust the carrying out of Government work to private firms. The evidence given does not show clearly that such a course would, as a rule, lead to either greater efficiency, better work or saving of public expenditure, whilst, as Mr. Chadwick points out, there are objections to giving out Government work in the manner proposed, and difficulties as to selection of firms which could not be easily met. After careful consideration and in view of the fact that Mr. Chatham states that the staff, if increased as proposed by him, will be sufficient to carry out all works involving an expenditure equal to that for which provision is made in the Estimates for 1902, the Commission is not in favour, under ordinary circumstances of giving out public works to private firms, and is of opinion that this should not be done except in cases of a special nature or of urgency, when the staff of the Public Works Department is not able to carry out the work.

ARCHITECTS.

20. Mr. Gale is of opinion that two of the Assistant Engineers in the Public Works Department should be qualified Architects. Mr. Chatham agrees with that opinion, and the Commission recommends that it be adopted.

SUMMARY OF INCREASE OF STAFF AND ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE.

21. The increase in the staff of the Public Works Department recommended by the Commission beyond what is provided in the Estimates for 1902, may be summarised as follows:—

- 1 Executive Engineer for the supervision of Extraordinary Works.
- 1 Executive Engineer for Drainage or Water-works.
- 1 Assistant Engineer for general Maintenance Work (Government Buildings, Roads, &c.).
- 1 Overseer for Roads inside the City.
- 1 Overseer for Telephones.
- 2 Overseers or Inspectors for performing the duties imposed on the Public Works Department by the Building Ordinances.
- 1 Overseer for Water-works, City and Hill District.
- 1 Experienced Clerk to take charge of the Water accounts.

The present staff is not up to the strength provided for in the 1902 Estimates, which accounts for the apparent disparity between the summary given above and the increase of staff referred to in the evidence, which refers entirely to the staff in existence when the Commission was first appointed. The expenditure on account of these increases in the staff beyond that provided for in the Estimates for 1902, is estimated at \$29,500.

CROWN AGENT SYSTEM.

22. In view of the statements made regarding

the Crown Agents, the Commission thought it only fair to all parties concerned that those statements should be thoroughly investigated, though the Crown Agents system was not referred to it for enquiry and report. Mr. Denison in his evidence stated that he knew an instance in which he was purchasing iron for his clients at a much cheaper rate than that at which it was being supplied at the same time to the Colony by the Crown Agents.

From certain correspondence it appears that Mr. Denison is mistaken and that, as a matter of fact, the Crown Agents were supplying the Colony with iron at a cheaper rate than that at which Mr. Denison obtained it for his clients. It was also stated by a member of the Commission that the Crown Agents had forwarded a consignment of cement to Hongkong without having received any requisition the usual way from the Government. The documents in Appendix No. 23 show that the cement in question was duly ordered by the Director of Public Works, Mr. Grimsby, who appears to have forgotten that he had sent his order and to have misled others into believing that the Crown Agents had forwarded the cement without authority. These witnesses who have had practical experience of the Crown Agent system, including Mr. Chadwick, all speak highly of it, and the Commission is of opinion that it works well and that it would not be easy to substitute for it any other system that would work so satisfactorily.

DISCHARGE OF DUTIES BY P.W.D. FROM 1ST OCT., 1899, TO 30TH SEPT., 1900

23. The second subject of reference on which the Commission was appointed to report is stated in the Commission as follows:—

The manner in which the duties devolving upon the Public Works Department have been performed during the period of two years preceding the 1st day of October, 1901.

In view of the evidence given to the Commission, it is of opinion that, owing to insufficiency of staff, it was not possible for the Department to discharge its duties thoroughly. Through want of staff, public works, including water-works, have been delayed and the general business of the Department has not been conducted with that promptitude which the Commission regards as most necessary and desirable.

24. In conclusion, the Commission recommends that no expenditure on account of public works should be included in the yearly Estimates, unless there is every reason to anticipate that such moneys will be expended during the financial year, and that such works as are approved in those Estimates should be taken in hand without delay and not postponed unless for exceptional reasons.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.
(Chairman).

JOHN THURBURN.

L. F. BROWN, Col.

GODFREY C. C. MASTER.

Hongkong, 29th March, 1902.

I agree with the above report except that I am not of the opinion that the Crown Agent system works well. I think the Government would be better served by its own Agents, under its own orders, when the Government could change when dissatisfied. I do not think that the Crown Agents should be entrusted with the floating of loans. That should be done through a bank or financial firm of first-class standing.

ROBERT SHEWAN.

Some time ago the Japanese Government decided in favour of the establishment of a Commercial College in Kyushu, says the *Nagasaki Press*, and on learning of this the Nagasaki authorities at once declared their readiness to contribute Yen 150,000 toward the building fund, in consideration of the site of the college being fixed here. The latest news of the matter is that the Government has decided in favour of this town, and the work of building is to be started almost at once, with a view to its completion within three years. The local authorities will therefore call a meeting of the Prefectural Assembly at an early date, in order to secure its approval of the appropriation of the sum named.

VOLUNTEERS AND THE CORONATION.

A parade of about forty non-commissioned officers and men of the Volunteer Corps, who have notified their ability to obtain the necessary leave to proceed to England as a contingent representative of the Colony at the Coronation in June, was held on the parade ground at the Volunteer Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on the 11th inst. They were briefly addressed by Captain Pritchard, the new Commandant of the Corps, who said that whilst no definite selection had been made from amongst those who had sent in their names, there was no reason to doubt that all would be included in the contingent. The arrangements had not yet reached the stage of finality, but he was able to state that the contingent would leave Hongkong on 14th May by the steamer *Empress of Japan*, and travel via Canada and the United States, reaching London on or about 22nd June, four days prior to the Coronation ceremony. They would be encamped in Alexandra Park with the other Colonial contingents. As to the return journey, it was probable that after a month spent in England the contingent would travel to Liverpool and embark on the steamer *Ionie* for New York, proceeding thence to Vancouver, where they would catch the *Empress of Japan*, and arriving back in the Colony about 9th September. Captain Pritchard further intimated that the Government absolutely declined to grant pay to the members of the contingent, and it was therefore necessary that they should have some money of their own at hand, which would be consigned to the care of the officer in command and paid out as circumstances demanded. With the assurance that each man who was selected would be acquainted with the fact at the earliest possible moment, Captain Pritchard dismissed the parade.

The following officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, forty-three all told, will form the contingent that is to represent the Colony at the Coronation of His Majesty in London on 26th June next:—

OFFICERS.

Major Chapman (in command).
Lieut. Armstrong, Field Battery.

FIELD BATTERY.

Sergeant T. Meek.
Corporal C. E. A. Hance.
Corporal R. Henderson.
Bombardier S. A. Seth.
Gunner T. Benning.
Gunner A. Asger.
Gunner T. Claridge.
Gunner L. R. Lammer.
Gunner P. Lapsley.
Gunner A. A. Alves.
Gunner A. E. Alves.
Gunner C. Leykam.
Gunner J. P. Jordan.
Gunner F. J. Baker.
Gunner J. Olsen.
Gunner J. Witchell.
Gunner E. R. Horton.
Gunner J. W. Kew.
Gunner J. C. Logan.

"A" COMPANY.

Sergeant J. T. Plummer.
Gunner S. L. Jenkins.
Gunner O. D. Thomson.
Gunner E. D. Wolfe.

"B" COMPANY.

Bombardier H. W. Sayer.

"C" COMPANY.

Corporal J. S. Gubbay.
Gunner C. E. Ellis.
Gunner A. Rose.
Gunner S. J. Michael.

"D" COMPANY.

Colour-Sergeant D. Mackenzie.
Sergeant J. I. Andrew.
Private H. S. Mather.
Private H. Horley.
Private B. Clarke.
Private J. R. Hainsworth.
Private R. Witchell.
Private P. J. Gillings.
Private R. A. Heckford.

"E" COMPANY.
Sapper R. R. Aitken.
Sapper C. G. Crane.
Sapper L. A. M. Edwards.
Sapper D. H. Pullen.
BAND.
Corporal A. Brown.

THE MANCHURIAN CONVENTION.

A Peking despatch says that the Manchurian Convention concluded between Russia and China has not been signed between the parties concerned. The postponement of the signing was due partly to a hitch caused by Prince Ching, and partly to the sudden illness of Yung Lu. The despatch adds that the matter will certainly not progress until Yung Lu recovers. Another despatch from Tientsin is printed by the *Osaka Asahi* claiming to give the substance of the text of the Manchurian Convention. The four articles mentioned in the telegram are as follows:—

Art. 1.—China shall pay to Russia Tls. 1,600,000 as compensation for the expenses incurred in keeping troops in the three eastern provinces.

Art. 2.—Russia is to withdraw her troops from China—except those in Port Arthur and Talienwan—within 18 months.

Art. 3.—The soldiers to guard this part of China's dominions are to be trained by China herself.

Art. 4.—The right of constructing railways and working mines in the three eastern provinces may be granted either to natives or foreigners, but always without prejudice to the Chinese Eastern Railway and the Russian Mining Company.

EDUCATION IN HONGKONG.

In an article entitled "Hongkong as it looks to-day," the *N. C. Daily News* makes the following remarks upon the educational system here:—"Visits to the schools show that of purely foreign children there are not enough for this purpose, for though scholastic institutions are many, there is as yet, not a single one for the purely European child. This is a grievance which in these days of high rent, low exchange, and growing expenditure in every way is beginning to be very seriously felt, and of late there has been a great deal of discussion in the Colony over the question of separate accommodation for the boys and girls of European parentage. Some remarks made by the present Bishop, the Right Reverend J. C. Hoare, D.D., at a prize-giving, were taken up, and after a good deal of local discussion a scheme was sent home to the Colonial Secretary and a satisfactory reply received, so there is now a hope that ere long Hongkong will have a school for white children. At the moment, however, nothing tangible has been done, and on the Kowloon side at any rate there appears to be some fear that the European residents are to be beholden for their school to the generosity, of a liberal-minded native! The whole scheme as a matter of fact, exists on paper only, though with their usual thoroughness, which consists in doing one thing at a time, the authorities have already imported teachers! By-and-by, the remainder of the scheme is to be considered and decided upon; then the schools are to be built and the books and apparatus imported, by which time the scholars will have grown up and the time for the teacher's furlough will have arrived. They are liberal in the way of staff in Hongkong, and can always allow for a fair proportion being absent holiday-making."

MISHAP TO THE "PELUSE."

SUPPOSED COLLISION WITH A MONSTER WHALE.

With reference to the recent accident to s.s. *Peluse*, which steamer returned to Hongkong with a hole in her bottom, Messrs. Arnold, Karberg & Co. send us the following letter which was received by the captain and speaks for itself:—

Customs Station,
Samun Island, 15th April.

DEAR SIR,—This morning I was informed by a native that a large fish was lying on the sand beach at North Side of this Island,

which is about 8 miles West of the Middle Rocks. I was also informed that the whale (for such it is) was run into and killed by a kerosine oil steamer near Middle Rocks. The whale was afterwards towed in by a junk and hauled up on the beach at high water. I proceeded to the place indicated and found to my surprise a monster whale of immense proportions. He is about 60 feet in length and weighs, I should think, about 100 tons. Hearing that you had an accident under doubtful circumstances, I take pleasure in communicating this intelligence for your information.—Yours sincerely,

L. C. ARLINGTON,
Officer in Charge of Station.

INTERNATIONAL VAUDEVILLE COMPANY.

Undoubtedly the best circus company the Colony has seen for a long time, it is not surprising that the International Vaudeville Company is being well patronised nightly at the Theatre Royal. The "Boer pantomime," against which such strong objections were raised in Manila, has been very properly deleted from the programme, and nothing remains now but an entertainment which is excellent in every way and which contains no suggestion of anything calculated to jar on anyone's feelings, be they the outcome of patriotism or of modesty. The company, of course, is largely Russian, and it is an added charm and certainly a novelty to hear the "patter" in some of the numbers carried on in a language foreign to many of those in the audience; but as each item is capable of intelligible interpretation on the part of the audience by the employment of the visual powers alone, the absence of "English as she is spoke" does not make itself felt. Despite the high tone of quality that characterises the entertainment as a whole, it is not difficult to assign especial prominence to Mr. Posti's display on the horizontal bar and to the exhibitions of strength by Mr. Graen and his juggling feats of Mr. C. Billing.

SEAMEN'S INSTITUTE, KOWLOON.

Those who were present at the concert given by Bandmaster Moir and the Band of the R.W.F. on Thursday evening had a rare musical treat provided for them. If the audience was small it was thoroughly appreciative, and enjoyed to the full the good things provided for its delectation. The programme throughout was of a very high order. It opened with a full orchestral selection entitled "London night by night," and was followed by a humorous song rendered in good style by Mr. Dean. "A soldier and a man" was sympathetically sung by Sergeant Hunt, who subsequently sang in equally good style "Because I love you." Mr. Burgess, whose singing is accompanied by considerable histrionic ability, sang "Right in the middle of the wood," "He was one of the old Brigade" and "Girly-Girly." The presence of Mrs. Mudie and Miss Ramsay added very considerably to the interest of the programme, the former rendering the Scotch songs, "Within a Mile o' Edinboro' Town" and "Coming through the Rye" (the latter as an encore) in inimitable style. Miss Ramsay did full justice to the songs "The Carnival" and "Down the Vale." The piccolo solo "Sylvia" of Mr. Mackie was faultlessly rendered, with orchestral accompaniment, as was also the trombone quartette "Image of the Rose" by Messrs. Moir, Hunt, Thompson, and Green. Mr. Kent was thoroughly at home in his rendering of the Irish songs "O'Calligan, call again" and "O'Shea's Re'urn." The instrumental piece "Des Mandolines" by the string band was well executed and well received, and the selection "A night in town" gave evidence of careful preparation. The entertainment concluded with a most enjoyable musical sketch illustrative of the difficulties and ambitions of the musical world in a small village. There was not a weak number in the whole of the programme and the greatest pains must have been taken by the genial and talented

bandmaster, and by the bandmen, to reach the high standard of excellence they attained. If they can be induced to repeat the performance they may expect a bumper house. The proceeds of the concert are in aid of the fund for the renovation and improvement of the Institute premises. The Chaplains desire to thank Col. the Hon. R. H. Bertie, C.B., and the officers of the Battalion for kindly permitting the Band to be present and Bandmaster Moir and the men of the Band for the concert they provided—one of the very best ever held in the Institute.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE CATHOLIC UNION.

The twelfth entertainment by the members of the Catholic Union took place on the 12th inst. in the hall of the Club, when Offenbach's comic operetta in two acts entitled *The Magic Melody* was staged. The piece is very tuneful, and possesses many pretty songs, as is the case with all of Offenbach's music, but there is really no plot to speak of. The various characters were very creditably sustained by the lady and gentlemen amateurs, many of whom only made their debut as actors and actresses. The singing throughout was good, excellent time being kept, especially by the chorus, but at times some of the lines in the play were not audible, due perhaps to the bad acoustic arrangements of the hall. Taken all round, the piece was very satisfactorily put through, and bore evidence of careful rehearsing under Mr. W. Farmer. The musical part was under the care of Mr. Emil Danenberg, and Miss Judith Danenberg acted as accompanist in a clever style. A word of praise is also due to the orchestra, who played an overture and during the interval, and also to the pretty sceneries and the stage arrangements, which were under the superintendence of Mr. M. J. Danenberg. The performance was repeated on Monday evening before a very appreciative audience, and showed much improvement, gained from experience. The following was the cast of characters:—

Arnold (A scrivener's clerk)	Mr. M. J. Danenberg.
Dorick (An old scrivener)	Mr. L. Silva-Netto.
Grace (his ward)	Miss Silva-Netto.
Betty (A kitchen wench)	Miss Elsie Kruger.
Toby (An office boy)	Mr. Emil Danenberg.
Louisa, Susan, Isabella and Kate	(Grace's friends)
Will, Ralph, Ned and Basi	(Dorick's clerks)
Misses L. Alves, A. Gutierrez, C. and H. Lopes.	
Messrs. F. Eca da Silva, C. Roza, A. A. Alves, G. V. Osmund.	
Ah Fook (a Chinese servant)	Mr. F. Ribeiro.

ANNUAL POLO DINNER.

Upwards of twenty members sat down to the annual polo dinner in the Hongkong Club on Monday evening, 31st March. Lieut.-Col. F. W. B. Koe, A.S.C., Hon. Secretary, was the guest of the evening. The Hon. T. H. Whitehead was Chairman, while Major A. B. Hamilton, D.A.A.G., occupied the vice-chair. After the toast of "King Edward the Seventh" had been pledged,

The CHAIRMAN proposed the health of "Our Guest," who was so soon to leave for the old country. Col. Koe had been an indefatigable Secretary, tactful but firm, and he had rendered the Club yeoman service. He would be greatly missed by many others besides polo players, also by Jumbo, from whose back he did much hard hitting and scored many a goal. He had always played the game right through for his side, and not for his personal enjoyment. His example, repeatedly set them, should not be forgotten, but should be emulated by every member. In the promotion of manly sports and health-giving games their Honorary Secretary's energy and resource had been untiring, and they would be fortunate if they looked upon his like again. On behalf of the members, the Chairman asked Col. Koe's acceptance of a silver salver as a small token of their friendship and esteem. They wished him health, a long life of usefulness, and a happy reunion with his wife and family in England.

The toast was drunk with musical honours.

The following inscription appeared on the salver:—Lieut.-Col. F. W. B. Koe, A.S.C., Honorary Secretary, from members of the

Hongkong Polo Club, with respect and esteem 31st March, 1902."

Lieut.-Col. Koe said in reply that he felt he did not deserve the good things the Chairman had said or the splendid reception they had given him. Still, he greatly appreciated their kindness and would cherish that beautiful souvenir not only for its intrinsic value but for the feelings which prompted them to think of thus honouring him. He could not find words to adequately express how grateful he was for the evidence of good fellowship which the gathering indicated, for he was conscious of his shortcomings and that he did not merit what they had done for him. He was sorry to be leaving Hongkong for several reasons, and because when at home he would not be able to afford to play polo, as ponies there are so expensive. However, he would take away with him many pleasant recollections, none happier than his polo associations here, and he could only tender each of them his heart-felt thanks for their cordial reception and kindness. (Applause)

Major A. B. HAMILTON proposed the "Naval Players," to whom they were much indebted for their assistance in keeping the proverbial polo ball rolling. In spite of the difficulties in picking up ponies at short notice, and notwithstanding the uncertainty as their stay here, the Royal Navy were always well represented in all games, more especially polo. Amongst them were several of the Club's keenest players, and some of its most popular members. He could not sit down without recalling to memory the grievous loss which the senior service and the Club sustained in the sudden and untimely death at Canton, from cholera, of a typical young sportsman and splendid horseman, who was one of the best-known figures in last winter's polo and whose cheery and hopeful disposition endeared him to all. He referred to the late Lieut.-Commander E. A. Baird, of H.M. gunboat *Britomart*, who was deservedly held in high esteem. Major Hamilton coupled the toast, in the absence of Captain Orpen, with the name of Lieut. Hutchinson. (Applause.)

Lieut. H. HUTCHINSON, R.N., in response, thanked the proposer for the very generous terms in which he referred to the naval polo players. He could not find words to suitably express their gratitude for the sporting reception they had received on Causeway Bay. Assuredly the naval man had difficulties to contend against, for he arrived here to-day and he did not know how soon he might have to be away again. Consequently he had to buy ponies without much of a trial, and though he was invariably a good judge of horseflesh he had to take a good deal on trust. Yet they now numbered 13 players, which was some evidence that naval men take to horseflesh as naturally as the duck takes to water. (Applause.)

Mr. W. A. CRUICKSHANK proposed the "R.A. Polo Players." The Gunners had, he said, always taken an active part in all branches of health-giving recreation, including polo, cricket, football, and yachting. He hoped that wherever it might be his luck to be stationed it would be his good fortune to meet the Gunners. (Applause.)

Lieut. G. BADHAM THORNHILL replied. It was very nice of Mr. Cruickshank to make such flattering remarks about the R.A., a title of which they did not deserve, for at present they had very few players. Mr. Whitehead had at previous annual dinners remarked that it was a "Gunner" Major, now Col. Walter B. Fletcher, who started the game here. They were very proud of the fact that a "Gunner" was the pioneer of the noblest of all sports on this Island. (Applause.)

Captain LABERTOUCHE proposed the health of the "Royal Welsh Fusiliers Polo Players." It was a very great loss to the Club that half of the very greatest were in the North, but in Peking they had started polo and were giving a right good account of themselves there. Those here had had to contend against a series of accidents with ponies, and but for this he felt sure they would have had a team which would have carried off the Royal Artillery Challenge Shield as well as Mr. Cruickshank's cups in the recent tournaments. He coupled the toast with the sporting Capt. Cadogan. (Applause.)

Capt. CADOGAN responded in suitable terms.

Lieut. C. BADHAM THORNHILL, in proposing "the Polo Players in the 22nd Bombay In-

fantry," said he knew the Bombay very well and could truthfully say they were a band of true sportsmen. He believed the regiment might be going away before very long, so it was therefore all the more to their credit that they had supported the game to the extent they had done. He had a shrewd suspicion that if they remained with us they would put in the field one of the strongest regimental teams seen here for a long time, as he knew they had a pony or two in training on the quiet over in the New Territory. He coupled with the toast the name of the genial Captain Labertouche, one of the hardest, surest hitters and a brilliant player. (Applause.)

Capt. C. N. L. LABERTOUCHE said that with regard to polo players and the regiment to which he had the honour to belong he felt that the initiated there must look upon some of Mr. Thornhill's remarks as bordering on exaggeration and irony, while personally he felt that he must accuse him of flattery.

Col. Koe proposed "Success to the Polo Club," coupled with the name of Mr. Whitehead, who, he said, was one of the Club's original numbers and had been one of its staunchest supporters and continued to be one of its mainstays. Every sportsman had its utility, but none tended to make a man more a man than the entrancing game of polo, and none fitted him more for the sterner joys of war, or enabled him the better to fight his part in the battle of life. The exercise which the noble game yields had worked wonders on many men, and Mr. Whitehead was a living evidence of what polo exercise could do for the human frame after a lengthened residence in tropical climates. In their own interests it was much to be regretted that so few civilian members followed the example set by their energetic and indefatigable Chairman.

Mr. T. H. WHITEHEAD, in responding, said the Polo Club was getting on in years, having been started in 1887. During that period there had been many changes and no less than seven different regiments had been stationed here. Now Hongkong was fortunate to have the privilege of the presence of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Amongst the polo-playing members of these regiments there were the pick of the very best of the good fellows, the hardest and surest hitters, splendid horsemen, and numerous brilliant players, a good many of whom he grieved to say had found their last resting place in South Africa. That so few civilians were to be found amongst the playing members was greatly to be deplored, for the effects of the exercise were more bracing and far more lasting than the best tonics medical science could prescribe. The members of the club were under great obligations to the ladies for honouring Causeway Bay ground occasionally with their presence, which added a distinct charm to the picturesque surroundings. Their presence also caused emulation in the heart of the players, it made the old feel gay and the young to feel strong. Polo occupied a unique position between "sports" properly so called on the one hand and "games" on the other, and partook of the best qualities of both. It was most useful for developing the attributes in man—eye, hand, a firm seat, courage, activity, pluck, endurance, quickness of thought, keenness, determination, good temper, judgment, strategy, discipline, unselfishness, and self-control. The exercise hardened the muscles, strengthened the nerves, qualified and fitted man for the discharge of life's duties in addition to rendering him capable of performing better work than he otherwise could do. A warm welcome awaited the new faces who came to fill up the gaps in the ranks made by departing favourites, but old friends, whether players or ponies, held a warm corner in their hearts. He had it on reliable authority that in future there are to be three Indian regiments stationed in Hongkong instead of one, in addition to one British regiment, besides the large number of Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, &c., but he sincerely hoped the Civil element would not be so backward to join their ranks and share in the many benefits which the invigorating exercise yields. Polo was steadily gaining a firmer root and stronger hold in public favour throughout the world. There would be an international tournament in England this summer and another at Delhi next January, India having invited

England, America, France, Italy, Hungary and other countries to take part in the latter. From the recent Bombay papers it appeared that a selected team of crack players from Manipur, the birthplace of polo, were to take part in the Delhi tournament. (Applause)

Other toasts followed, including "The Ladies," proposed by the gallant Captain Labretouche in a speech brimful of Irish wit and humour, and responded to by Mr. J. D. Venables. A very enjoyable evening terminated with "Auld Lang Syne."—Contributed.

MURDER OF MR. G. RUTHERFORD AT SINGAPORE.

The Singapore papers bring details of the horrible murder, on the night of the 9th inst., of Mr. George Rutherford, managing director of the Tanjong Pagar Dock Co. The following account is taken from the *Straits Times*:—At about 2.30 o'clock a.m., three natives dressed in black entered Mr. Rutherford's residence. They climbed up the posts of the verandah and cut away the venetian blinds from the windows. They then undid the bolts and opened the windows. The robbers then helped themselves to a couple of small clocks valued at about \$30. They next went into the bedroom of Miss Gunn, who is staying as a guest with Mrs. Rutherford, and one of the ruffians opened the mosquito curtain and looked in at her. The lady awoke and, seeing the burglars, screamed for help. One of the men instantly stabbed her in the forehead and leg. Mr. Rutherford, who was sleeping in an adjoining room, heard the noise and came to Miss Gunn's assistance. He met one of the robbers on the way and attempted to seize him. The burglar, however, at once stabbed him in the abdomen, ripping him open and exposing his intestines. The murderer then made his escape. While this was happening, Mrs. Rutherford ran to get a revolver from one of the rooms. At the same time Miss Gunn, although wounded and bleeding, pursued one of the burglars. As this man passed Mr. Rutherford he also stabbed the unfortunate gentleman in the stomach. He then escaped in the darkness. All the robbers managed to escape by the verandah. The servants had all been securely locked in by the burglars before they entered the house, and were therefore unable to come to the assistance of their master. The *jagah*, a Bengali, was asleep at the time. Mr. Rutherford had no dogs. Medical assistance was telephoned for and Drs. Kirk, Galloway and Fowles were soon on the scene and attended to the unfortunate gentleman. He had to be put under chloroform and was seen to be in a hopeless condition from the first. He expired at 2.30 o'clock this (the 10th) afternoon. It is not known whether the burglars were Malays, Javanese or Chinamen. The police think that they were Chinamen. The matter is being investigated. Mr. Rutherford had only arrived from England two months before.

THE FUKUI FIRE.

EFFECT ON THE HABUTAI MARKET.

From further particulars of the fire at Fukui published in the Osaka papers, it appears that 156 buildings occupied by weaving firms and 112 occupied by silk goods brokers have been destroyed, while the value of habutai silk and raw silk destroyed or damaged is estimated at some 300,000 yen. Thirty-nine raw silk dealers were also burnt out. As the stock of raw silk is mostly stored in the more or less fire-proof warehouses of banks, the losses are estimated at not more than 50,000 yen. Fortunately the safes, godowns and books of all the banks were saved, except those of the Fukui Shogyo Ginko, whose raw silk godown was destroyed.

Fukui, as our readers will be aware, is one of the principal habutai-producing centres. There are 2,833 habutai-weaving firms in the prefecture, the quantity of silk produced last year amounting to 800,000 pieces, representing a value of about 14,880,000 yen. The quantity of habutai destroyed by the fire is as yet unknown. From a return made by the police authorities some 2,000 pieces were examined on the 27th and 28th ult., and the stocks on the day of the fire were estimated at some 20,000 pieces. The habutai market was beginning to improve, and as the mills were busy weaving

the material for silk handkerchiefs, the losses, it is feared, may to some extent affect the markets at Yokohama and Kobe. Fortunately, however, the many weaving mills are situated in suburbs and in rural districts, and thus escaped destruction, so that no lack of stock is anticipated.

According to the latest return made by the City Office, some twenty-nine streets or about one-third of the whole city, were devastated, the houses destroyed numbering 3,209, in addition to about 90 in the suburbs. Some 907 godowns were also destroyed. The total losses caused by the destruction of property are estimated at 15,205,000 yen.

As far as can be ascertained, six persons were burnt to death, one being a fireman: 57 were badly injured, and 361 sustained injuries of a more or less severe nature. About six hundred of the poorer inhabitants who were rendered homeless are receiving relief in temples, schools, and other places.

On the authority of the Mayor of Fukui city, a dispatch to the *Asahi* says that, speaking from the point of view of the number of houses destroyed by the recent fire, only one-third of the city has been devastated, but viewed from the standpoint of wealth, almost seven-tenths of the city has been destroyed, as the part over which the fire swept was the most prosperous. In consequence it is feared that the finances of the city will materially suffer.

The Fukui City authorities estimate the damage done by the fire at 13,280,000 yen. A later despatch from Fukui states that seven bodies were discovered in the ashes.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 16th April.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

H.I.G.M.S. *Tiger*, with Rear-Admiral von Alefeld on board, called in here yesterday and will be leaving for Hongkong to-day or to-morrow.

CHANGE OF OFFICIALS.

Mr. Too Streich, for many years Consul for Germany at this port, left on a two years' furlough in company with his wife last Sunday by the *Thales*. His successor is Mr. Bernhard Krause, late Acting-Consul at Amoy, who has already arrived here.

A CONFLAGRATION.

Early this morning, at about 2 o'clock, a fire broke out in Chao An Street and lasted until 5 o'clock. There are about two dozen houses destroyed, the majority of which were rice and flour shops. The loss is estimated at half a lac of dollars, which is not covered by any fire insurance.

RAIN AT LAST.

Since writing last, rain has happily come down in good abundance and thereby averted a scarcity of water in the port. It has been raining incessantly for three days, which, however, is not quite sufficient to replenish our almost emptied reservoirs.

THE WEATHER.

We have been having very changeable weather of late, which is not conducive to good health. During last week the thermometer dropped over night from 85 to 65 degrees F., and one imagined, owing to the existing chilly weather, that winter had returned once more.

CLAN FIGHTS AGAIN.

Just before closing my letter news reaches me of a clan fight between Roman Catholic and Protestant converts at Han-Po. Details are, however, lacking.

According to the Japan correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, the leading capitalists of Japan will shortly start a new steamship company on the Yangtze under the name of the Hunan Steamship Co., with the object of opening up Hunan. The capital of the company will be one million and a half of yen, and three steamers of 700 tons each will soon be built. The line will extend over 325 miles between Hankow and Siantan via Yochou and Changsha and up the Siang river, and will be extended at an early date to Changtê up the Yuan river. The Di t will almost certainly give an official guarantee for five years of 6 per cent. per annum.

PEKING.

Peking, 4th April.

THE GYMKHANA

given at the race course this week met with considerable appreciation. The Germans gave a first class gymnastic performance, there was horse-racing, and the Russian Cossacks turned out in full force to give a thorough exhibition of fancy riding—on ponies. Any kind of riding on the Chinese or Mongolian horse is, of course, fancy. The soberest equestrian is sure to cut a few figures in even an ordinary airing on these beasts that will astonish and alarm any pedestrian. They are not horses, but a cross between a pig and a jumping jack, as everyone knows. So such feats as the American cowboy does on the real horse when done as they were by the Cossacks with their scrubby steeds were feats indeed.

MINES AND RAILWAYS.

The mountain has laboured and brought forth the mouse. Those sweet paragons of talent, the members of the new Board of Mines and Railways, have made and printed the rules for making money out of the foreigners, who are sure to tumble over themselves just to open mines and build railways, on conditions that would swamp any enterprise but a "green goods" business. One-third the tax provided for minerals would kill any iron mine, and the conditions are prohibitive by the happiest interpretation, for any known scheme of marketing ores. The ministers have jumped on it and some of them have told the Wai Wupu what they think. It was not entirely unexpected, but as Chang Yenmao was a man of experience in mining and other business enterprises of a foreign nature, there was reason to believe the work of the board would show some of the earmarks of foreign regulations. But, bless your life, there was Wang Wenshan, with his razor out and Chi Hungchi with a club like a cricket bat ready to swipe any pale-face notion that came along—and they made it too warm for the modern idea altogether. No, no, my Celestials, not if the Court knows itself! You are not going to have the benefits of your natural resources while we can prevent their being forced upon you by a barbarian enemy. No siree, not in China! What have we hiked all the way to Sian and back for!

And when Yung Lu saw it he was made glad, saying that they have not forgotten their fathers, and straightway the vermilion pencil was brought out and seeing it was intended that they should get rich by approval they all gave thanks, appropriating a small sum for printing expenses.

TWO PRIESTS SEIZED BY REBELS.

One of the Chinese generals in command of troops here says that two priests are in the hands of rebels near Chaoyang, east of Jehol. We have had it from a foreign source and authorities that no such thing exists, but the Chinese said positively it was so and gave the reason, which was this:—The Catholic mission there collected seven thousand taels indemnity, upon payment of which they guaranteed the district against invasion by allies or Russians and French. The recovery of this money is reported to be the object of this capture. But whether the priests are captured or not, Bishop Favier sent a deputy up there with General Maykun last Sunday, and a settlement is thought possible with his assistance and that of five or six thousand soldiers.

SERIOUS UPRISING.

Stories have arrived from Paotingfu that a serious uprising occurred at Tamingfu, the southernmost fu of Chihli, and that Yuan Shih-kai sent a force of soldiers that killed a thousand people! This is the native story but, as the district is the refuge of lawless persons from near by Shantung and Honan and in constant danger of riots, part of the story is believed. Rumours of uprisings in many districts are afloat, indemnity riots, the Chinese call them, and attribute them to hatred of the Church. Doubtless the tax collectors and Yamen herd foment disturbances by charging converts and missions with the responsibility of the indemnity. Catholics and Protestants who have possessed themselves of land and houses by confiscation are the special objects of danger, and in many places are trying to rid themselves of these possessions at great discounts upon

their real worth. The Chinese military believe in recurrent troubles and are trying to hold themselves in readiness. The officials are suppressing information of disturbance and no edicts of consequence are published. Troubles in this province are likely to be kept quiet on account of the Provisional Government, which will never be relinquished while riots exist and uprisings in adjoining province or even the far away south which will furnish ample pretext for its continuance.

RESTORATION OF TIENSIN.

The military commanders at Tientsin, in accordance with the request of the ministers, furnished views upon the subject of the restoration of the Chinese. The destruction of the Taku forts will require until the middle of June, said one. Any other excuse might be sufficient to side-track it until autumn.

Baron von Mumm has gone to the Western Tombs to remain a week, and no ministers meeting is likely for the consideration of this subject for a couple of weeks.

THE NEW ITALIAN MINISTER

has arrived and taken up his residence at the south-east corner of the Imperial City wall, where the *chargé* has been living in a Chinese fu. From this point he can watch the little boys throw stones with strings tied to them.—*Shanghai Mercury*.

THE GOVERNMENT OF LABUAN.

The inhabitants of the Crown Colony of Labuan of all races and creeds, European, native, and Chinese, have sent to the Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, a memorial bringing under his notice the unsatisfactory administration of the Colony of Labuan by the Chartered Company of British North Borneo, the grievances complained of being amongst others:—(a.) Repeated encroachments of the said Company on the liberties and privileges of its status as a Crown Colony. (b.) The unlawful assimilation of its fiscal policy to the State of North Borneo. (c.) The introduction of unnecessary and irritating taxation and legislation without consultation of the Colony. (d.) Stealthy introduction of ordinances detrimental to the trade of the Colony. (e.) Extravagant administration and a plethora of superfluous officials. (f.) Very unsatisfactory administration of justice by unqualified persons and the absence of right of appeal to the High Court of the Straits Settlements—the nearest Colony having properly trained jurists and judges—prior to the costly, and to most inhabitants, impossible appeal to the Privy Council. (g.) A general want of dignity and formality throughout the whole administration, similar to the prodigal habits of North Borneo which have caused and are still causing that State so much trouble with its inhabitants. (h.) The want of provision for even the most elementary education. (i.) The infliction on the Colony of an alien Police force of natives of India, which apart from being useless for policing the Colony are demoralising the natives by scandalous acts of usury.

Referring to the policing of the Colony the petition says:—"The members of this force spend the most of their time in bacchanalian idleness. They only do patrol duty in the town of Victoria, never in the outlying districts and villages. To while away their idleness they dedicate themselves to the most disgraceful usury. Prowling about in mufti touting for customers, the unsophisticated and uneducated native is no match for them and easily falls a prey to their wiles. Once in their clutches he is immolated on the altar of Shylock. Local law allows them to charge interest on money lent at the rate of 3 per cent. per mensem; these rascals, however, draw up a document the native does not understand, and in his ignorance is induced to sign or make his mark, stipulating for this interest whilst a clandestine agreement is made verbally for 10 per cent. per mensem, interest. They rarely give a receipt for interest received, and although they have received their 10 per cent. they have a trick of making the agreement read that interest has not been paid to the full amount and capitalise the balance, charging compound interest. The native is easily duped to pay any exaction the lender may demand under threat of using the power

of their uniform to trump up a false charge against him. Knowing from experience the favour extended these Sikhs by the Court he does not dare, except in rare instances of more enlightened natives, dispute their claims. This scandalous practice has already resulted in one tragedy to an official in British North Borneo.

"The Colonial Office will recollect the same scandal happened with the Sikh police in Hongkong a few years back, and was peremptorily put down by the Chief Justice, Sir John Carrington. If such practices could happen there under a properly constituted Government with a large staff of European police officers and inspectors, it may be imagined what goes on here under the present *laissez faire* system with a police force entirely of Sikhs, with no European inspector, allowed to do as they like. What has happened? About a year ago a most daring robbery of a large amount of money took place in the Post Office in front of the door of which Sikh police are supposed to be on guard all night! This is still enveloped in mystery and the perpetrators not brought to justice. A murder was committed in one of the outlying districts where police never patrol, more than 1½ years ago; a woman shot for alleged witchcraft; the police never found it out, private denunciation disclosed the crime. The supposed murderer was committed for trial and a few days later escaped from goal, and has not since been heard of. The goal is guarded by these Sikhs, and very few prisoners are confined there. The prisoner it might be said belongs to a family who have money! Can such a force be said to be efficient? Would such have happened under the old Malay police? Yet withal we find the Government pandering to this handful of aliens, greatly to the disgust of the inhabitants. Here is a recent instance. The Resident gave an order that no fresh meat was to be exposed for sale in the market owing to the sight of such being offensive to the Sikhs, who regarded the cow as a sacred animal. The Sikhs buy nothing in the market; what necessity have they therefore to go there if they don't like to see fresh beef? Labuan is a Malay country, Sikhs are aliens, Malays are Mahomedans and according to their religion have as much if not more repulsion for the pig, yet Chinese, also aliens, are freely allowed to bring fresh pork into the market frequented more by Mahomedans than other races, although the latter, the large majority of the population, have asked for no such order to exclude pork. We grant that such an order was thoughtless, it was also indiscreet of a high official to issue it without more forethought, and is typical of how things are done here."

The memorialists pray that His Majesty disallow the following:—

Notification No. 65 in *Official Gazette* of 25th November, 1901, increasing the tobacco duties to those in force under the Customs tariff of North Borneo.

Ordinance No. 7 of 1901 cited as "Liquors Ordinance, 1901," in all its parts, substituting therefore the old Ordinance No. 4 of 1850.

(Legally we have no Liquor Ordinance in force in the Colony at the present moment, although a person styling himself the Spirit Farmer is exercising functions and levying duties the existence of which we have no official knowledge of. In the Appendix to this Memorial we enclose *Official Gazette* No. 18 of 1901, December 6th. Art. 1. says: "This ordinance shall be cited as The Liquors Ordinance 1901, and shall come into force on the 1st January, 1902." Art. 2 repeals the old Ordinance. Art. 3. "The Liquors Proclamation 1901" of the State of North Borneo is hereby adopted *mutatis mutandis* as the law of the Colony. Where is the new Ordinance and of what does it consist? We are officially ignorant of the same. Its articles and conditions have neither been published in the *Labuan Official Gazette* nor posted up in the Colony for general information. The North Borneo *Official Gazette* has no official circulation in this Crown Colony, consequently no publication therein has any official force in this Colony. All actions committed under this North Borneo ordinance are consequently illegal. Here is an instance of want of legal acumen in the Government and a further motive for the right of appeal to the High Court of the Straits Settlements.)

The Sanitary ordinance as now constituted, substituting therefor a new ordinance to be drawn up by the present Board in accordance with the requirements and necessities of the place, authorising them at the same time to have the control of all public works in place of the present arrangement.

To recommend His Majesty to allow us the right of appeal from the General Court in all civil and criminal cases to the full Supreme Court sitting in the Straits Settlements.

Finally we pray His Majesty to remove the Chartered Company and again take over the direct administration of this Colony as of yore, or make it an appendage of the Straits Settlements under a Deputy Governor or Resident appointed by the Crown on the recommendation of the Governor of the Straits Settlements with a representative on the Legislative Council. We now pay \$4,050 for "Governor and staff," and \$5,470 for "Resident and staff," in all \$9,520 per annum. For this amount or less we ought to obtain a capable officer. As an alternative we would gladly be placed under the administration of Rajah Brooke of Sarawak. He has large interests in the immediate neighbourhood, thoroughly understands the people of this part of the world, and his administration is pure and beyond reproach. It is intolerable to have officials appointed by the Chartered Company's Board of Directors, subject to them and their lust for revenue to pay dividends, apart from the other grave inconveniences we have mentioned.

The Chartered Company have been given a fair trial. They have administered the Colony for 11 years and their rule has been a failure. The Colony has deteriorated all round. Roads in perfect order when the Colony was handed over have been neglected and are now impassable, bridges have tumbled down and have not been replaced, the outlying districts are now inaccessible, public works have been abandoned, and a want of interest in the welfare of the Colony is generally noticeable. They have taken our corn and given us chaff in return.

We further pray you to accept this memorial, although sent direct. We are aware it is usual to send such documents through the Governor in other British Colonies. In our case the conditions are different; although nominally a British Colony, our Government is administered by a Chartered Company, and the Governor is immediately under their orders. Whilst we have every confidence in the Governor's personal integrity, we have none in the Chartered Company, and this petition once in their Board-room might never leave it. We therefore send a copy only to the Governor.

This memorial is signed by all classes not alone in the town of Victoria but also in the outlying villages of the Island, by the oldest and youngest European, Chinese and Malay residents. It is signed practically by all the natives who can write, and they but interpret the wishes of their less fortunate brethren unable to write. It is the unanimous wish of the inhabitants, who pray that His Majesty's Government may take the necessary action.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

TELEPHONING THROUGH BROKEN WIRES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Canton, 9th April.

SIR,—With reference to Capt. Charollois's invention mentioned in your paper of 4th inst., of telephoning through wire lying on dry ground to six miles, I beg to say that I can transmit messages through bare and submarine wire to any distance, round the globe, even if the wire gets broken in one or two places, which is an advantage over all other systems. Why, then, does not the Telegraph Companies utilise this system when the wires are interrupted? I see that messages are sometimes stopped for weeks, and if this system is adopted communication can be going on even at the time when the cables are being repaired. The

cost of machinery, also, is not too great.—Yours, etc.

H. R. JHU.

[The paragraph to which our correspondent refers appeared in the "Scientific Miscellany," and was as follows:—"The telephone system of Captain Charollois, which is rapidly coming into use in the French and German armies, permits the laying of the bare wire upon the ground when not too wet. The wire, usually about one-fortieth of an inch in diameter, is of a special alloy known as Martin bi-metal, and it is so light that a man can easily carry three or four miles of it, reeling it off at two and a half miles an hour. With a microphone transmitter and adjustable receiver the line can be worked up to six miles."—Ed., D.P.]

PARSEE CHARITY FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 11th April.

SIR,—Through inconvenience I regret I could not reply to a correspondence over the *nom de plume* of "Problem" in your issue of Tuesday last. In the last paragraph the writer vaguely questions or raises the question whether the Canton Parsees have the same rights as those enjoyed by their brethren in Hongkong. If the writer means to set Canton Parsees by the ears he is mistaken, for nobody has ever questioned the rights of their co-religionists in Canton, nor have their "powers and privileges" ever been denied them, and they invariably subscribe to any list of subscriptions sent by the secretary of the fund in Hongkong; but this question has simply come out of the rapid brain of an irresponsible writer who, knowing his case hopeless, writes anonymously. If the Parsees up the river have a mind to take part in any meeting they have only to come down to Hongkong and attend it, as they have done times out of number.—Yours, etc.,

H. S. K.

TYPHOON WARNINGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 14th April.

SIR,—With the typhoon season approaching, it may not be out of place to strike a note of protest against the paucity of information received by mariners at the Port of Hongkong during that season. A frequent navigator in these waters cannot help but notice the great difference in the quality and quantity of storm warning information given at the various treaty ports as compared with that given from the Observatory in the British Colony of Hongkong; and what is more to be regretted, greatly to the detriment of the latter. The following paragraphs may help to explain matters which to an outsider appear inexplicable. They are printed as a foot-note in a pamphlet issued from the Observatory at Siewai, near Shanghai, on the typhoon of August 1st and 6th, 1901:—"It is to be regretted that the service thus rendered to Shanghai south-going ships cannot be reciprocated in favour of Hongkong north-bound vessels, as our weather warnings, which are received at Amoy, Foochow, &c., are flatly refused at Victoria. In the present occasion it seems that captains would have been warned at least 24 hours earlier than they actually were and thus spared many chances of sailing into the typhoon. Be that as it may, nothing would be more desirable than a joint uniform service of warnings, carried on in common by all the meteorological stations in the Far East; and all these stations, American, French, Portuguese, Chinese, German, Korean, and Japanese, would no doubt readily concur in it, with the always ready help of the Telegraph Companies if their good-will was not mostly baffled by the regrettable missing of one link in the chain of friendly co-operation, extending all along the coast from Saigon to Manila and Tokyo."

The above is not nice reading for Englishmen. To find our only observatory in the Far East carrying out a policy of "splendid isolation" here, in the centre of storm-beaten tracks, is to put the most charitable construction on it; most imprudent. To "flatly refuse" to receive warnings amicably offered seems to me to be worthy of a stronger term. It is but natural to suppose that the maritime nationalities of the Far Eastern seas should band together in common cause against the terrible

storms prevalent on their coasts; to issue the most correct warnings possible; to follow the course of these storms from their origin to their final dissolution; and to endeavour to give the navigator timely warning and all the assistance possible gleaned from the latest evolutions of meteorological science. We want these warnings to-day, to-morrow, not in a future generation, when our descendants will read of the disastrous effects of such and such a typhoon, the warnings for which were not issued in time to be of practical assistance down south. But ships north were warned in time. It is not pleasant to find that British representatives hold aloof from the friendly co-operation of their neighbours in matters meteorological, and refuse to receive proffered warning. It is more, it is unjust to the seafaring population whose living is eked out in these seas, and who have a right to expect that their institutions should not be behind those of other nations, the more especially so, that British tonnage is in a vast preponderance. Science should benefit them to the best of her ability. In open seas they can help themselves, and avoid the dangers by ordinary laws, but in narrow waters, such as the Formosa Channel, a warning in time is an estimable boon, and in many cases the salvation of much life and property, and it is sinful to think that whilst one portion of the coast may receive definite warning the other is left in complete ignorance. I do not say that warnings are not issued by the Hongkong Observatory, but I do assert that compared with those issued by the Siewai Observatory they are very meagre and vague, and are not issued on *Sundays* and *Government holidays*, as if the storms would wait. Siewai makes no such exceptions, and when depressions are located, warnings telling the mariner of the place and direction they are travelling, are kept flying from daylight to dark, whether it be Sunday or week-day. Why cannot the same arrangement exist at Hongkong? Why cannot the generous code of signals such as is given in the North be adopted by the Hongkong Observatory in common with the rest of China, instead of that incomplete code it now adopts? The present selfish, incomplete system is a blot on the Colony, and I trust the day is not far off when those who are responsible for it will see the error of their ways, and co-operate heartily with their neighbours, from whose useful institutions they might learn many a wrinkle. Let them sink their petty jealousies in their zeal for the public good, and unite in their efforts for the very laudable object of baffling the elements in these stormy seas. In this way will they earn the gratitude of seafaring men, not only of the coast, but those who trade beyond—among the latter of whom may be reckoned.—Yours, etc.,

MASTER MARINER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 16th April.

SIR,—In your correspondent "Master Mariner's" letter of the 14th inst., attention is called to the attitude of our meteorological authorities in the matter of typhoon warnings, and the remarks he makes will, I think, be endorsed by all who are interested in shipping; but it is an old story. Again and again has the plea for an improved system been urged, only to be calmly ignored by the impassive Dispenser of Weather at the Observatory. If that institution has any *raison d'être* it surely is the distribution in the promptest and fullest manner of the warning of all possible or anticipated bad weather. That was the purpose for which it was established, and the public has a right to expect such performance. How does it fulfil its mission? Calmly it goes on grinding out a weather report which is sent over to Hongkong in the afternoon (weather permitting) and posted up somewhere, telling what the weather phenomena of the previous afternoon and the forenoon up to 10 o'clock have been, weather fair or foul; that is the result of its labours. It is true, in addition, certain signals are hoisted in various places, but they are too indefinite to be of much real value. What is wanted is information up to the latest known phase or development of the weather. A case fairly in point occurred last October; the weather was threatening, a typhoon passing to the south, and toward nightfall the appearances seemed

worse. The Kowloon Oracle was dumb: it is not prudent for a vessel to lie in an insecure position with the night and a possible typhoon coming on; and some vessels went to shelter. The weather got no worse, and next day the information was given that the centre had passed the Colony at 4.30 the previous afternoon. Had that little piece of news been allowed to transpire when ascertained it would have saved much needless anxiety, as well as wear and tear and expenditure of coal.

It is fair to compare such a state of things, paid for with public money, with the corresponding service in Shanghai, which is rendered largely gratuitously by the French authorities and missionaries. Then on the Bund is a convenient little weather office where may at all times be seen the weather chart of all China for the present and previous days, so that any one may forecast the probabilities for himself, and from the flagstaff above are kept flying distinct signals giving the latest weather and wind information from far and wide; and these benefits are not grudgingly confined to Shanghai; outlying stations have the same kindly consideration shown them. So does Shanghai; so does not Hongkong. What goes on in our establishment we who are "not meteorologists" know not; but it does seem to the lay mind that when a certain work is paid for it might reasonably be required even if the correspondence with learned societies on various heavenly phenomena has to be neglected.

Again, why should not the benefit of the Observatory be somewhat extended? Occasionally the Canton Customs are advised (by their own people) of the propinquity of typhoons; but there seems no reason why, as the junks and Chinese shipping are likewise of consideration, a warning signal might not be arranged for at the entrance of the river, the Bogue: many an unfortunate junk might by it be prevented leaving the shelter of the river and so saved the almost certain fate awaiting her if caught outside. Of course there are "lions in the way," but there is a line of wire down to the forts and there appears to be no insurmountable obstacle to the project, which it seems to me would be worth trying. The Colony is not so poor but that it could spare a few dollars on such an object. Why the extraordinary assumption of superiority by the Hongkong Observatory and the game of cross-purposes carried on by it, both with those who wish to give and those who wish to receive information, have not long ago been peremptorily put a stop to is a conundrum that has never been satisfactorily answered.—Yours, etc.,

L.

SHELTER AT PLANTATION ROAD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 17th April.

SIR,—May I be permitted, through the medium of your valuable columns, to call the attention of the management of the Tramway Company to the urgent necessity of having some sort of shelter put up at the Plantation Road Station? This spot is very much exposed to the harbour side, and, with the rainy season so near at hand, it is indispensable that some provision should be made without delay. I feel sure that all those who, like myself, make use of this station must have often felt the want of a shelter while waiting for the tram. It seems rather ungracious, in the face of the many improvements effected by the management, to be somewhat exacting, but I think they will be the first to admit this shelter is an absolute necessity.—Yours, etc.,

IMPROVEMENT.

THE PROPOSED "KING'S PARK."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 18th April, 1902.

SIR,—The Colonial Secretary has hit the nail on the head by his suggestion of a "King's Park" as a lasting and worthy memorial of the Coronation of His Majesty the King. Presumably the "excellent site" referred to by Mr. Lockhart is within easy access of Hongkong, and of sufficient extent to afford the increased recreation facilities of which the Colony stands so badly in need. Now is the time to "peg out" a King's Park in Kowloon, which,

with the Happy Valley on the Hongkong side, will meet the needs of all—Service men and Civilians, Kowloon residents and Hongkong residents. Happy Valley by itself is and has long been hopelessly inadequate.—Yours, etc.,
COVER POINT.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LD.

The thirteenth ordinary general meeting of shareholders in this Co. was held at the office of the general managers on the 14th inst. Mr. R. Shewan, chairman, presided, and the other gentlemen present were Dr. Noble, Messrs C. Ewens and C. W. Dickson (Consulting Committee), A. Babington, J. R. Michael, S. H. Michael, Ho, Fook, Fung Wa Chun, T. H. Reid, G. C. Moxon, and others.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, The report and accounts having been already printed and circulated amongst you since the 1st inst., we will now, with your permission, take them as read. It affords us much pleasure to lay before you accounts showing a gross profit of over \$200,000 as against about \$150,000 last year, and to be able to recommend a larger dividend, namely 10 per cent. The accounts are very plain and I think require no explanation from me. You will notice that we owed our bankers over \$227,000 on 31st December. It is up to \$237,000 to-day, and, of course, will be increased by payment of the dividend. Stocks of raw material are valued at cost, and finished cement at much below what we expect to sell it at. You will notice that we have considerably exceeded the estimate for extensions, which I told you at our meeting on 12th April, 1900, would amount to about \$300,000 for four additional kilns, but the fact is that instead of four we have put up eight additional kilns, with of course, the corresponding extra grinding machinery, boilers, engines, &c., which explains the larger figure of \$421,598 in the accounts. We had to do this, as I am pleased to tell you that in addition to our contract with Messrs. Punchard, Lowther & Co., which I reported to you last year, we have secured another similar large contract from Messrs. Butterfield & Swire for their new dockyard. We are now delivering regularly under both contracts and, as requirements are increasing every month and will continue to increase for some time to come; we fully expect to be kept much busier this year. Under these circumstances, and, with the prospect later on of supplying the wants of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. for their contemplated new dock, the extra kilns were absolutely necessary, and I think you will agree with me that we are now fully justified in having made these additions and in acting as we did with confidence in the future of this Company. Had we gone on as we were doing, and waited till the time came, we should have simply missed the business, as it is a matter of two years to get these kilns and their corresponding machinery ordered from home and installed and working out here. I may say that there are now very few further payments still due on account of these extensions, and that we reckon about \$25,000 is all we shall have to add this year to the item of \$421,598 on 31st December last. The Macao Works have given us much satisfaction. They are a very valuable adjunct to our factory here and, with the various improvements we have made to the machinery and the new kilns with which we have replaced the old bottle kilns and Hoffmann kiln, which have all been pulled down, are now producing cement as cheaply as at Hok On. These works have now reached that stage where no increase of output can be made without a radical change all round, and as most of the plant there is in very good order, it will be some years before such a change is advisable. All we propose to do at present there is to add a new boiler and build another cement bin which, with a few other smaller additions, will come to about \$25,000 to be spent this year. Both these last two items are only approximate. We cannot, of course, guarantee not to spend any more for we do not know what a year may bring forth or what other expenditures we may have to undertake. The brick works at Deep Water Bay leave a fair return on the capital invested, but a good deal is required there in the way of

improvements, so we have written off the equivalent of the profit as depreciation. Our stock of raw material is now very low and this has been our chief worry during the year, the prolonged drought having prevented the boats coming down from the country. Rain, however, seems to be coming at last and everything has been done to ensure a much large supply of material this year. Our aim has always been to keep at least one year's supply in stock, but our continually increasing consumption and this year's diminished arrivals have totally defeated our object. I trust, gentlemen, I have made our present position and hopes for the future quite clear to you, and I am bound to add that, in all we have done, we have been loyally supported by a very zealous and efficient staff. On the Consulting Committee we have lost the services of Mr. Gillies, who took great interest in our business and could always be relied upon for practical advice. In his place we recommend the election of Dr. J. W. Noble, who has a very large stake in the Company and has its interests closely at heart. Before I move the formal adoption of the report and accounts, I will endeavour to answer any questions you may wish to put to me to the best of my ability.

Mr. J. R. MICHAEL—Mr. Chairman, I have already given you notice of the questions I intended to ask, and you, in the speech you have just made as Chairman, have answered almost every one of them. But I have not actually caught the answers to some of the questions, so I would like if you would repeat them. Shall I put my questions?

The CHAIRMAN—Certainly.

Mr. MICHAEL—On the 31st December last, the Company's debit balance with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was \$227,222.34. Has this been increased or reduced since that date, and by how much after including the dividend just declared?

The CHAIRMAN—That is answered. You see I told you it was \$227,000 on 31st December, and it is up to \$237,000 to-day.

Mr. MICHAEL—Including the dividend?

The CHAIRMAN—The dividend has not been paid yet.

Mr. MICHAEL—Has any further expenditure been made on buildings and machinery at Macao and Hok On since the 31st December last? If so, how much, and what further expenditure do you contemplate making or do the works require? Did you say \$25,000?

The CHAIRMAN—At Hok On; and \$25,000 at Macao.

Mr. MICHAEL—Is that \$25,000 each?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes.

Mr. MICHAEL—The cement, raw materials, &c., in stock in Macao and Hok On on 31st December last are valued at \$2,608,242. Does this sum represent cost price, and is the manufactured cement valued at its selling price?

The CHAIRMAN—The stocks of raw material are valued at cost price, and finished cement much below what we expect to sell it at.

Mr. MICHAEL—In view of the very large demand that exists for cement and the low rate of exchange now ruling, which is stopping importations from Europe, will it not be advisable to raise our price for cement?

The CHAIRMAN—Well, I don't think anybody, Mr. Michael, is likely to overlook the question of exchange.

There being no further questions, the CHAIRMAN proposed that the Report and Accounts be adopted and passed.

Mr. MOXON seconded, and the motion was carried.

On the motion of Mr. REID, seconded by Mr. J. R. MICHAEL, the Hon. C. P. Chater, Dr. Noble, Mr. C. Ewens, and Mr. C. W. Dickson were re-elected as Consulting Committee.

Mr. J. R. MICHAEL proposed the re-election of Messrs. W. H. Poit and T. Arnold as auditors, and, being seconded by Mr. Ho Fook, this was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting, gentlemen. I am much obliged for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready this afternoon.

The Church Missionary Society have accepted an offer of service from the Rev. G. H. Moule, curate of Wareham, for work in Japan. His father is the well-known China missionary, and he has also two brothers in the field.

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 11th April.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE "PERU" SHOOTING CASE—ACCUSED SENTENCED TO FOUR YEARS.

The trial of Albert Marshall for the attempted murder of Albert Freeman Pillsbury, master of the Pacific Mail steamship *Peru*, was resumed at ten o'clock.

Addressing the jury on behalf of the prisoner, Mr. Slade drew attention to the special features of the case. He referred to the three counts of the indictment, and said it was not denied that the prisoner assaulted the captain, nor that he had a rifle in his hand and that it went off while he was carrying it; it was not even denied that the bullet went in the direction of the captain. But it was for the jury to make up their minds whether or not the prosecution had proved the intent to murder or to do grievous bodily harm. If there was any reasonable doubt, then it was their duty to discharge the prisoner. Mr. Slade proceeded to comment on the evidence of the prosecution and remarked that the prisoner could not give his version of the affair on oath. The stewardess had not been called, though he thought the evidence she gave at the Police Court would not make them think the captain was anxious she should be present at the trial. What she had stated was to the effect that while asleep in her cabin she was awakened by a crash at the door and heard a voice "Captain, you cannot do this; I have too much respect for that woman; I will kill you?" That, he thought, bore out the statement of the prisoner that the captain was trying to get into the woman's cabin, and that in defence of her honour prisoner remonstrated with him. Continuing, Mr. Slade pointed out to the jury that the gun might have gone off by accident. The trigger was an extremely light one, and the action of swinging the rifle round to use it as a club might have caused the explosion; that the bullet went anywhere near Captain Pillsbury was merely an unfortunate fact. The rifle had been hanging up for a long time, and Marshall had not the slightest idea that it was loaded; as already pointed out, he meant simply to use it as a club to protect himself against the captain's violence. Referring to Captain Pillsbury's motives for proceeding against Marshall, counsel for the defence said he was animated by two impulses—to save his own reputation and to secure revenge upon Marshall. It was to his manifest benefit to prove that Marshall was the villain, and not Captain Pillsbury.

Mr. Slade sat down after having spoken for three-quarters of an hour.

The Prisoner then read a statement he had prepared for the occasion, in which, after detailing his length of service with the Pacific Mail Steamship Company—four years—and also that of the stewardess, Mrs. Jorgansen, he went on to say that on three occasions he had seen Captain Pillsbury in the latter's cabin, at night, previous to the occasions when the shooting incident occurred. Once, at Yokohama, he spoke to the captain about his conduct, and the latter hung his head and said nothing. The stewardess said she would rather leave the ship than be persecuted by the captain. On Wednesday, 22nd January, whilst the ship was in harbour here, she told him that Captain Pillsbury had called at her room in Thomas's Grill Rooms, but was refused admittance, and talked to her for a couple of hours in the hall, winding up by telling her to sleep on the steamer that night. Dealing with the events connected with the shooting incident, Marshall said in his statement that he saw Captain Pillsbury go into No. 3 cabin, occupied by the stewardess. Five minutes after he followed him, and found the cabin in darkness and the stewardess in bed. Marshall expostulated, and the captain said, "Hush, don't talk so loud." Then suddenly he caught Marshall by the throat and threw him down, cutting his head. It was in consequence of this assault that Marshall, when he followed Captain Pillsbury and the

stewardess into the other cabin, took the rifle with him. He meant to use it, if necessary, as a club, to protect himself, and was not aware that it was loaded. It went off as he was walking down the saloon towards the cabin. Marshall concluded his statement by saying that he did not use the words, "Captain Pillsbury, I will kill you," and did not hit the captain on the forehead with the barrel of the rifle. When asked to do so at the Police Court, Captain Pillsbury could not show any marks.

The Acting Attorney-General, in the address to the jury, laid stress on the fact that one hour elapsed between the first struggle and the actual shooting, which to his mind showed conclusively that the prisoner, when he went along to the stewardess's cabin, did so in cold blood, and with intent. As to the relations that he said existed between the captain and the stewardess, she was a woman of age, and so far as they knew, beyond the unsupported statement of the prisoner, made no complaint of the attentions alleged to be paid her by Captain Pillsbury. She apparently was not averse to these attentions, and what right had the prisoner to constitute himself a champion of innocence and follow any man up with a rifle?

His Lordship summed up at great length, and the jury retired at five minutes to twelve to consider their verdict. They returned a quarter of an hour later, when the Foreman intimated that they unanimously found the prisoner guilty of attempted murder, but strongly recommended him to mercy.

After Mr. Slade had drawn attention to the fact that the prisoner had already been two months in gaol, his Lordship said—Albert Marshall, you have been found guilty, and I think on very clear evidence, of shooting the captain on board the steamer on which you were steward with intent to murder him. If that bullet you fired and cut his shoulder with had gone into his brain or into his heart, neither of them very many inches away from the spot where it did go, you would undoubtedly have been tried for murder. I wish to say nothing to aggravate the distressing position in which you now find yourself, but I find it my painful duty to pass a severe sentence upon you, in spite of the recommendation of the jury to mercy, which I take into consideration. The maximum punishment for the crime of which you have been found guilty is penal servitude for life. I bear in mind in your case that you were probably somewhat excited by drink on the occasion, but having regard to the extremely serious nature of the crime of which you have been found guilty, I sentence you to imprisonment with hard labour for four years.

The Court adjourned.

Friday, 18th April.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN
(CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE CALENDAR.

There were four cases on the calendar—Li Kung Cheong, charged on three counts with selling, uttering, and having in his possession counterfeit silver coin; Cheng Chau, rape; Fung Fu alias Su Cheong, disobeying an order of banishment; Robert M'Cann, forging a cheque.

RETURNING FROM BANISHMENT.

Fung Fu alias Su Cheong was charged with disobeying an order of banishment. He pleaded not guilty.

The following jury was empanelled: R. Innes, C. de Silva, P. S. James n. F. F. Barretto, M. da Silva Guimaraes, P. H. Murray and H. J. M. de Carvalho.

The Acting Attorney-General (Mr. A. G. Wise, K.C.), said the case was simply one of identity. The prisoner was banished from the Colony on 6th May, 1897, for five years, and was found here on 27th March of this year. This was less than a couple of months from the expiry of the period of banishment, but the prisoner did not set up any defence of having made a mistake; he simply stated that he was not banished at all.

A warder in the gaol and a lance-sergeant of police gave evidence of identity. The former

was recalled by his Lordship, and stated that he recognised the prisoner immediately he was brought into the prison, and without the aid of a photograph.

The jury, without leaving the box, unanimously found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.

COUNTERFEIT COIN.

Li Kung Cheong, who wept as he was placed in the dock, was charged with (1) selling counterfeit silver coin, (2) uttering counterfeit silver coin, and (3) having in his possession counterfeit silver coin. He pleaded not guilty, and was tried by the same jury.

The Acting Attorney-General said an informer was sent with some marked coins to the prisoner, and his story was that he bought from the prisoner sixteen five-cent pieces, the face value of which was 90 cents, for 50 cents. On the transaction being completed the police constable who had sent the informer appeared on the scene, and the prisoner ran away. The informer joined in the pursuit, and in the struggle with the prisoner dropped the coins, and picked up only thirteen of them, losing three. The constable searched the prisoner and found some more bad money, which to a certain extent proved intent on the part of the prisoner.

The jury found the prisoner guilty on the first and third counts, and he was sentenced to five years' hard labour.

INDECENT ASSAULT.

Cheng Chau pleaded not guilty to committing an indecent assault upon a married woman of sixteen years.

The following jury was empanelled:—F. Esram, J. T. de Souza, G. F. da Roza, J. Ross, A. Mill, J. A. da C. N. Ribeiro, and L. A. Musso.

After the hearing of evidence, the prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to three years' imprisonment, with hard labour.

The Court adjourned till Monday at ten o'clock.

H.K.C.C. TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

We are favoured with the following additional scores in the above tournament:—

PROFESSIONAL PAIRS—2ND ROUND.

Pontifex and Grist beat Yeats and Deacon—6-4, 6-3.

Humphreys and Jupp beat Clapham and Fanshawe—6-4, 6-2.

PROFESSIONAL PAIRS—1ST ROUND.

Wynde and Waymouth beat Scott and Hodson—6-4, 6-2.

Brayne and Wei On scratched to Tyrwhitt and Ram.

"A" CLASS SINGLES—3RD ROUND.

Atkinson beat Clapham—8-6, 6-4.

Sercombe Smith beat Hayhurst—2-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Trimingham beat Hooper, 6-2, 6-4.

"B" CLASS SINGLES—2ND ROUND.

Libeaud beat Stevens—6-3, 6-2.

Chater beat Lammert—6-4, 6-2.

"B" CLASS SINGLES—3RD ROUND.

Gerrard beat Gale—6-3, 6-2.

DOUBLE HANDICAP—2ND ROUND.

Caulfield and Stevens beat Tibbey and Hooper—6-4, 6-1.

Garnett and Buttanshaw beat Trimingham and Woodcock—6-3, 6-4.

Humphreys and Jupp beat Yeats and Slade—9-7, 1-6, 6-4.

DOUBLE HANDICAP—1ST ROUND.

Wei On and Brayne scratched to Barrett and Rutherford.

Richards and Bertie scratched to Carter and Solfeet.

The following played on Wednesday:—

"A" CLASS HANDICAP.

France Hayhurst v. Humphreys.

Beresford Ash v. Deacon.

Trimingham v. Huskinson.

"B" CLASS HANDICAP.

Caulfield v. Ward.

DOUBLE HANDICAP.

Worcester and Gerrard v. Atkinson and Smith.

Scott and Hudson v. Lee and Main.

On Thursday the games were as follows:—

"B" CLASS SINGLES.

Libeaud v. Chater.

"A" CLASS SINGLES.

Humphreys v. Yeats.

The annual tennis match with the Ladies' Recreation Club took place on the 19th inst.

EPIDEMICS.

Mr. H. K. Dhabhar, Canton, sends us the following instructive essay by Charles Dickens, which is taken from *Household Words* of 10th May, 1856:—

In some European towns, when pestilence has entered and will not be driven forth by prayers or genuflexions, the people take their saints from their shrines in the churches and flog them about the streets. Weary of fair words, which have occupied a great deal of time to no good result, they try what coercion will do; proving the medical inefficiency of incense they put their trust in stripes. If the wind should come down and cool the fiery air, or if the deluge should cease and the noxious vapours be all drawn up—whatsoever the atmospheric change that may alter the sanitary condition of the population, the glory is ascribed to the timely flagellation of the wooden saints in lace and satin; and the cause was whip-cord, not nature.

We laugh at this. We call it very childish and very shocking. We wonder at the pertinacity of superstition, and think that in this liberal nineteenth century it ought to be driven out of its fastnesses, ignorance and barbarism. We thank God that we are enlightened, and not as these men are; and then an omnipotent Government and an added Parliament vote a Fast Day, because cholera is raging in the land.

We find no fault with Fast Days as spiritual exercises: we merely object to their being placed in the room of deeds; and protest against the impious idea that because a man abstains from meats, and goes to church twice on a certain week-day, he should therefore be saved all further trouble about his open drains and uncleansed ditches; that, in a word, we should charge the Majesty of Heaven with the cure of our own idleness, and call that a visitation from God, which is the result of human uncleanness and carelessness. Yet, in the face of all science and of all fact, it is still asserted that disease is a sign of Divine wrath, and not the consequence of certain fixed physical laws. An easier way of getting rid of responsibility and trouble than even the castigation of saints. What the physical laws are, and how they are to be dealt with, Dr. Southwood Smith's Lectures on Epidemics will help us to understand.

One unvarying character of epidemics is, that they are all fevers. The Black Death of the fourteenth century, an aggravated form of the Oriental or Bubo plague, was a fever, deriving its name from effusions of black blood forming spots on the arms, face, and neck. The Oriental Plague, still in existence in Egypt and Eastern Europe, and the Sweating Sickness of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, were both fevers; and even the cholera of the present day, in the last or perfect stages of its development, is a fever. All the ordinary epidemics, such as typhus, scarlet fever, measles, and small-pox, are recognised fevers.

A second likeness of epidemics with each other is the extent of their rage. The Black Death extended from China to Greenland, desolating Asia, Europe, and Africa. The Bubo Plague often left its own region to spread westward and northward. In the fifteenth century it spread seven times over Europe to the most northerly countries. The Sweating Sickness burst out simultaneously in England, France, Germany, Prussia, Poland, Russia, Norway, and Sweden. It extended like a violent conflagration which spread in all directions; yet the flames did not issue from the focus, but rose up everywhere as if self-ignited. The influenza of the middle ages had a universal range; and, in our own day, we have seen it in almost every family of every city, then rush over the whole of Europe and leap the Atlantic to America. Alike in essential character, and in the extent of their range, epidemics are also alike in the rapidity of their course. The cholera of eighteen hundred and thirty-one extended in five days from Cairo, where it first appeared, over the whole of Lower Egypt; in eighteen hundred and thirty-two it made a bound from London to Paris, and in five days spread over four-fifths of the city. The influenza of eighteen hundred and forty-one flashed over London in one day, and upwards of five hundred thousand were struck. We have already seen that the earlier epidemics were as rapid as they were extensive.

Epidemics are generally preceded by two

signs. One is the influenza. The plague, cholera, &c., have all been heralded by this disease. The first attack of cholera in England was preceded by an outbreak of influenza, which resembled in the minutest particular that which ushered in the mortal Sweating Sickness of fifteen hundred and seventeen; and the cholera of eighteen hundred and forty-eight was preceded by the influenza of eighteen hundred and forty-seven. The other sign, Dr. Smith says, is "the general transformation of the type of ordinary diseases into the characteristic type of the approaching pestilence."

Epidemics are periodical. The first appearance of the Sweating Sickness was in fourteen hundred and eighty-five. It spread over England for a year, then disappeared. After a lapse of twenty years it broke out again, went over all its former haunts and after six months died away. In eleven years it came again, and again died away in six months; a fourth time it returned after a sleep of eleven years, continued six months, then disappeared. Its fifth and last visitation was after a period of twenty-three years. It raged—as it had raged before—in six months, as usual, disappeared; and, since then,—this was in fifteen hundred and fifty-one,—it has never been known in any country whatsoever. The Oriental plague breaks out in the East about every ten years; the fever epidemics of London occur every ten or twelve years; the Irish typhus epidemics have been decennial visitations for the last hundred and fifty years. Epidemic cholera remained with us fifteen months, on its first visitation. After sixteen years it broke out again, for exactly fifteen months, as before. Again—this time after only five years' absence—it came for seventeen months; coming earlier and staying longer than it had done before. According to this rule we may expect it again, after even a shorter absence.

Epidemics are rapid in their effects. Death generally occurs after a few hours; seldom, if the disease can be protracted. The great object of all modern treatment for cholera, for instance, is to gain time; for, if the disease does not kill at once, the patient will oftener recover than die, after a prolonged attack. It is the shock, rather than exhaustion, that destroys.

Lastly, epidemics are alike in cause. What may have produced one epidemic at one period, will produce another at another period: the difference consisting in the form and name, not in the cause. Over-crowding, filth, exhalations from foul sewers, rivers, ditches, canals, &c., putrescent animal or vegetable matter, impure drinking-water, unwholesome meat, decayed vegetables, unsound grain,—these are some of the predisposing personal causes of epidemics, which make all those living under such conditions more likely to be attacked than those in healthier circumstances. Of all predisposing causes foul air ranks as chief. We have several striking proofs of this in the late cholera. At Tooting, thirteen hundred and ninety-five pauper children were crowded into a space which was large enough for only five hundred. Sixty-four of these children were attacked by cholera in one night; and in a week a hundred and eighty had died. This, because of overcrowding and of the scanty allowance of one hundred cubic feet of air to each child, when five hundred cubic feet is the smallest quantity compatible with safety. In the Taunton work-house there were two hundred and seventy-six inmates with sixty-eight cubic feet of air for each. Cholera carried off sixty in less than a week. In the county jail of Taunton, where the criminals were allowed from eight hundred and nineteen to nine hundred and thirty-five cubic feet of air, not a single case of cholera, nor even of diarrhoea, occurred. At East Farleigh, in Kent, one thousand people were assembled for hop-picking. They were lodged in sheds, and had about eighty cubic feet of air each to breathe. Ninety-seven were struck down by cholera, while in the same village another employer, who had provided proper accommodation for his work-people, did not lose one by the epidemic. All through the overcrowded streets of London, last year, the cholera raged with violence; whilst in the more open spaces, other sanitary conditions being observed, not a case was recorded. People have often said that no difference can be detected in the analysis of pure and impure air. This is one of the vulgar errors difficult to

dislodge from the public brain. The fact is, that the condensed air of a crowded room gives a deposit which, if allowed to remain for a few days, form a solid, thick, glutinous mass, having a strong colour of animal matter. If examined by the microscope it is seen to undergo a remarkable change. First of all, it is converted into a vegetable growth, and this is followed by the production of multitudes of animalcules, a decisive proof that it must contain organic matter, otherwise it could not nourish organic beings. This was the result arrived at by Dr. Angus Smith in his beautiful experiments on the Air and Water of Towns, wherein he showed how the lungs and skin give out organic matter, which is in itself a deadly poison, producing headache, sickness, disease, or epidemic, according to its strength. Why, if "a few drops of the liquid matter, obtained by a condensation of the air of a foul locality, introduced into the vein of a dog, can produce death with the usual phenomena of typhus fever," what incalculable evil must it not produce on those human beings who breathe it again and again, rendered fouler and less capable of sustaining life with each breath drawn? Such contamination of the air, and consequent hot bed of fever and epidemic, it is easily within the power of man to remove. Ventilation and cleanliness will do all, so far as the abolition of this evil goes, and ventilation and cleanliness are not miracles to be prayed for, but certain results of common obedience to the laws of God.

Besides this human contamination, the atmosphere itself undergoes changes which predispose it to the development and spread of epidemics. Inversions of the seasons, long droughts followed by heavy rains, mists, and every form of continuous damp combined with excessive heat, giving rise, first, to inordinate growths of the lower species of vegetation, then to swarms of locusts, flies, caterpillars, frogs, &c., and, as the sequence of these antecedent conditions, dearth and famine. Such, in all ages, have been the signs and precursors of a coming year of pestilence. During our own cholera epidemic, the air has been observed to be wonderfully still and stagnant, both by day and night; and when the last plague visited Vienna, there had been no wind for three months. For several weeks, too, before the Great Plague of London, the air had been so calm, it could not stir a vane; and the "terrible outbreak of cholera at Kurrachee, was preceded for some days by such a stagnation of the atmosphere that an oppression scarcely to be endured affected the whole population." A deficiency of electricity and a total absence of ozone are among other meteorological signs. Such atmospheric conditions as these, brooding over the lanes and courts of an uncleansed and over-populated city, must necessarily produce a burst of disease. Yet even then and thus, and notwithstanding the tremendous force of atmospheric influences, cleanliness, care, and forethought can stop the spread, or even prevent the rise, of epidemics. Dr. Southwood Smith says, "where certain conditions exist, epidemics break out and spread; where those conditions do not exist, epidemics do not break out and spread; and where those conditions did exist, but have been removed, thereupon epidemics cease to break out and spread." Overcrowding, the accumulation of filth in and about all dwelling-places, personal uncleanness, improper food and impure water, stagnant ditches, foul drains, marsh lands and the like, all these and other conditions of the same class it is within the power of man to alter or remove.

The epidemics of the tropics differ somewhat from those of the temperate zones. There, where vegetation is so rank, and organic life so profuse—insects filling the lower strata of the atmosphere to the height of fifteen or twenty feet—epidemics are more violent and sudden than with us. The outbreak of cholera alluded to, in the Eighty-sixth Regiment, at Kurrachee, in eighteen hundred and forty-six, was a striking instance of the fierce velocity of tropical epidemics. After a period of damp, hot, stagnant, and oppressive weather—for days not a breath of air stirring—suddenly forty men were seized with cholera in one night. In two days more, two hundred and fifty-six had been attacked in all, of whom one hundred and thirty-one were already dead. We have had nothing like this in our cholera epidemics.

Some epidemics are confined to particular latitudes: though most, after having been engendered in the tropics, pass onward to the north, without losing anything of their power. The yellow fever is the most definite in its range. Incapable of existing under either extreme of heat or cold—stopped by the blowing of a cool wind for only a few hours, and unknown under any other thermometrical readings than from between seventy-six and eighty-six degrees—as soon as it ceases its true form it is transformed to typhus; typhus commencing precisely at the line where yellow fever ends. This fact that certain epidemics are engendered by places and circumstances, not carried about by persons, is greatly insisted on, with a view to abolish all personal quarantine, where the climate renders the introduction of certain forms of disease impossible.

Better house arrangements, better food, improved cultivation of land, including especially drainage, and the cutting down of huge forests, wider streets, and better means of cleansing them—all these are among the reasons why civilisation is ranked as one of the great causes of amelioration in the type of epidemics, whether ordinary or extraordinary. That eternal myth of the Good Old Times fades into a very sorry reality what one looks at it narrowly! In the substitution of fresh for salt meat, and in the introduction of vegetables, our dietary table has infinitely reduced the chances of disease and mortality as compared with what they were in the Good Old Times. Even as late as the eighteenth century, fresh salads were sent from Holland for the table of Queen Caroline, and Sir John Pringle, writing in the middle of the last century, states that his father's gardener told him that in the time of his grandfather cabbages were sold for a crown a-piece. It was not until the close of the sixteenth century (fifteen hundred and eighty-five) that the potato was first brought to England, where it was limited to the garden for at least a century and a half after it had been planted by Sir Walter Raleigh in his own garden. It was first cultivated as a field-crop in Scotland in the year seventeen hundred and fifty-two.

We all know what sanitary effects result from the free use of fresh vegetables and fresh meat; so that, if we will but improve other things as much as we have improved our national diet, we may hope for the gradual extinction of epidemical disease. We have it in our own power. We hold the power, as we hold every faculty and privilege we possess, in trust from the Creator of all things and all creatures. If we once fairly understand and learn the great lesson, that man can control nature, we shall then turn our time to better account. Industry, cleanliness, forethought, knowledge, above all such chemical and physiological knowledge as will teach us practical health, these are enemies to epidemics, and in a fair fight they must conquer. What a terrible reflection it is, to think that hundreds and thousands of our fellows-creatures have died preventible deaths, and that we are literally suicides and murderers from blind adhesion to ignorance and dirt!

HONGKONG.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week included 238 non-Chinese and 39 Chinese to the former and 62 non-Chinese and 1,280 Chinese to the latter institution.

Among the passengers per *Shinano Maru*, which arrived on the 13th inst., were eight special plague doctors, who have been engaged by the Sanitary Board on the recommendation of the Chinese members.

About 4 a.m. on the 14th inst. fire broke out in a Chinese medicine-shop at 293, Queen's Road Central, and spread to the first, and second floors, both of which, with the ground floor, were completely burnt out. A high wind was blowing at the time, and the firemen were lucky in confining the flames to the one house. No fresh water, as usual nowadays, was obtainable, and the necessary supply had to be taken from the harbour. The premises are insured with the Commercial Union Company for \$6,500, which will probably cover the amount of the damage.

Lt. J. W. Graham, H.K.V.C., has been granted leave of absence for twelve months from 1st May.

The appointment of Captain C. G. Pritchard, R.G.A., as Commandant of the H.K.V.C., with the local rank of Major, is officially notified in the *Gazette*.

The Treasury has fixed for the quarter commencing the 1st prox., the rate for the issue of the dollar at Hongkong, in the Straits Settlements, and on the China station at 1s. 10d. This rate is fixed for regulating payments which would be made in sterling in the United Kingdom.

An accident, resulting in the death of a Chinaman, occurred on board H.M.S. *Terrible* on the 14th. The *Terrible* is in dock undergoing repairs, and while a workman was removing the grating of the inlet valve, which is under the bottom of the ship, by some means or other the grating fell on him, killing him on the spot.

During the week ended 12th inst. there were three fatal cases of bubonic plague (2 Portuguese and 1 Chinese) reported in the Colony. Cholera accounted for 21 Chinese deaths—20 cases occurred in the City and 2 in the Harbour. There were also 2 cases of enteric fever (European), one of which was imported from Canton.—The total number of plague cases to date is 15.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has received a telegram from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies intimating that the Hon. Sir Henry Spencer Berkeley, K.B., Chief Justice of Fiji, has been appointed Attorney-General of Hongkong, and is expected to arrive here some time in June. Sir Henry was born in 1851, and is now 51 years of age. Educated for the law, he became a barrister of the Inner Temple in 1873, and five years later went out as Solicitor-General of the Leeward Islands. In Fiji he first obtained the appointment of Attorney-General, officiating in this capacity from 1885 to 1889, and in the latter year was made Chief Justice of the Islands. He was created K.B. in 1896.

There was just been floated a new company entitled Hongkong Plantation Co., with the purpose, amongst others, of growing in a clean manner, under European supervision, for local consumption, and on contract for Manila, Singapore, Bangkok, Borneo, &c., all the various descriptions of vegetables and small fruits commonly consumed by Europeans and Americans, including grapes, strawberries, raspberries, and the like. The Company's plantations are situated in the fertile, well-watered Shaphat-heung Valley, between Sanlin and Kamtin in the New Territory, and admit of indefinite expansion according to requirements. The primary superiority which the Company will be able to claim for its produce over that of the Chinese lies in the fact that no objectionable manure or fertilisers will be used on its plantations. Mr. H. W. S. Edmunds is general manager, and Mr. F. E. J. Bishop selling agent for outside places. The temporary head office of the Company is at 3A, Wyndham Street.

An outbreak of fire occurred on the 11th inst. in a basket store No. 1, Pottinger Lane. The alarm sounded in the Central Police Station at one o'clock and two minutes later the firemen were running to the scene with all the necessary implements for extinguishing the outbreak. But their efforts were again seriously hampered by the cause that was such a serious factor for ill in the case of the Queen's Road fire—want of water. Do what they would, the firemen were unable to obtain an immediate supply, and for fully twenty minutes they had to stand impotently by while the flames gained headway. Considering the density of the area in which the outbreak occurred—a narrow lane surrounded on all sides by high, jerry-built looking houses—it is easily conceivable that the want of water might have led to the most serious results. However, once a supply was obtained everyone worked with a will, and in about a couple of hours the fire was extinguished. The store was insured for \$1,000 with the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha Co. The first floor was a coolie house and the third a family house. Damage is estimated at \$1,500. The Acting Deputy Captain Superintendent, Mr. A. Mackie, was in command of the Fire Brigade, and Inspector P. McNab was in charge of the police.

During the absence of Mr. T. Skinner, who has been granted twelve months' leave of absence, Mr. A. Ritchie will act as Surveyor of Unlicensed Steamships.

The Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd. has declared an interim bonus of 20 per cent upon contributions for the year 1901.

We understand that on the day the mail which arrived here on the 11th inst., on Friday left London the Committee of the China Association received a letter from the Manchester Chamber of Commerce strongly protesting against the proposed 15 per cent. on imports, although they would offer no opposition to 10 per cent.

An Association football match was played on the 17th inst. in the Happy Valley, the teams being the *Glory* (finalists for the Hongkong Challenge Shield) and the *Argonaut*. The game was very interesting and splendidly contested. At half-time neither side had scored. The result was:—*Glory*, one goal; *Argonaut*, nil.

At the regular Convocation of Victoria Chapter, No. 525 E.C., held at the Freemasons' Hall on the 15th inst., M. E. Comp. L. Mallory (for the Grand Superintendent) and the Officers of the District Grand Chapter attended and installed the Principals for the ensuing twelve months, viz.:—M. E. Comp. G. Piercy, Jr., M.E.Z.; E. Comp. W. J. Tutchter, H.; E. Comp. J. J. Bryan, J. The M.E.Z. appointed and invested the following officers:—Comp. H. Sykes, Sc. E.; Comp. J. W. Graham, Sc. N.; Comp. B. B. Harker, P.S.; Comp. G. Patton, 1st A.S.; Comp. A. H. Skelton, 2nd A.S.; Comp. H. M. H. Nemazee, Treas.; Comp. W. H. Purcell, Steward; Comp. J. Marshall, Janitor.

A distressing accident, which has involved the loss of three lives, occurred in the harbour on the 11th inst. At 11.30 p.m., according to the report furnished to the police, a boat from H.M. sloop *Vestal* left the landing stage at Blue Buildings with liberty men returning from leave. The number of those in the cutter is not given in the report, which states that on rounding the stern of H.M. sloop *Rosario* the boat from some unexplained cause was capsized, and the occupants were thrown into the water. Enquiries have established that they numbered thirteen, and when a muster was made of those rescued it transpired that three were missing—two bluejackets and a marine. The police at the Central Station were notified of the occurrence, and they in turn warned all the outlying stations to search the shore in their respective vicinities, but up till on the 13th inst. no word reached the Central of the finding of the missing men or their bodies. At the hour when the accident occurred the Water Police had two pinnaces and four rowing boats on duty in the harbour, but those on board were unaware of what had happened, and consequently could render no assistance.—The bodies of the three men who were drowned on the night of the 11th inst. through the capsizing of a dinghy belonging to H.M. sloop *Vestal* were recovered from the harbour on the 16th inst. at 8 a.m. They were seen floating in the water not far from the spot where the accident occurred, and were picked up by the naval authorities, who had them removed to the mortuary at Mount Shadwell. One of the bodies, it is stated, was minus the jumper worn by bluejackets, and it would thus appear that the unfortunate man had made a struggle for his life. Strange to say, the three men drowned, we are informed, were in charge of the dinghy—two pulling and one steering, and all the liberty men, of whom there were eleven, were rescued.

MISCELLANEOUS.

It is reported, says the *Shanghai Times*, that England and Japan are constantly sending spies to the different sea ports of Siberia and Manchuria to watch the movements of the Russians. The Russian Press are very indignant, and are urging the Government to take vigilant measures to put a stop to it.

On 8th April, Mr. Robert Inglis, of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., at Shanghai, was married to Jane, second daughter of Mr. Ch. B. Wehrung, one of the joint managers of the Russo-Chinese Bank. The marriage took place in St. Joseph's Church, French Concession, which was very prettily decorated for the occasion.

The steamship *Taiyo Maru*, a vessel of 1,269 tons capacity, is reported to have been wrecked by a submerged rock near the Kamiko-moto-shima, Idsu province. It appears she broke in two pieces. The gunboat *Misashi* was despatched from Yokosuka to the relief of the vessel and crew. No further particulars have come to hand.

In its "Notes and Comments," the *Pinang Gazette* has the following:—At one time *Punch* was acknowledged to be the leading British witty paper, but an inspection of last mail's issue can lead to only one opinion, and that is, that as a collection of absolute, unadulterated feebleness and stupidity it may be awarded first place. The two cartoons are good, the rest is mostly trash.

The steamship *Toyo Maru*, owned by the Higo Kisen Kaisha, is reported to have stranded off Donosaki, about 10 a.m. on the 6th inst., on her way from Shimabara to Moji. The news of the occurrence having reached Misumi, the *Aikoku Maru* was at once despatched to the scene, and all the cargo was successfully transhipped by her to Moji. Fortunately no serious damage was sustained by the *Toyo Maru*. It is hoped that she will soon be refloated.

The United States transport *McClellan*, which was at Colombo last on the 2nd November on her homeward voyage from Manila, arrived at Colombo on the 3rd instant from New York, bound for the Philippines. She had on board a staff of 133 teachers, civil servants, engineers, surveyors, &c., who are proceeding to Manila under the authority of the Secretary for War. She was also carrying a cargo of ordnance stores.

It has been officially announced by the C. P. R. that the Canadian-Australian liners will call regularly at Suva, Fiji Islands, on both north and south-bound voyages. The call at Suva will make the voyage occupy 25 days instead of 24 as aforetime. Arrangements have also been made that the steamer *Taiyuni* will arrive at Suva a day before the liners leave for Victoria, bringing freight and passengers from Auckland, New Zealand to connect with the Victoria-bound liners.

Vice-Admiral Sir Cyprian A. G. Bridge sends the following hydrographical memoranda to the *Gazette*:—Dinding Island.—The superintendent's house and flagstaff have been removed. The fixed white light on landing place is discontinued. Amoy.—Time signal unreliable. Libuan.—Shoal water. 34 fathoms. Pelong Rocks N. 86 E. Ketu Island S. 31 W., depth gradually increasing on N. 11 W. course to 10 fathoms line on chart near which 5 fathoms were obtained. 7½ fathoms. Great Rusukan N. 73 E. Pelong Rocks S. 45 E. depth on S. 83 E. course for 4½ miles varying from 6 to 8½ fathoms. Borneo S.C.—4½ fathoms patch, Lat. 4°15' S. Long 115°45' E. off Cape Selatan. Sarawak River.—Moratabas Beacon is not visible for seaward. The coal depot and wharf to S.W. of Tree Point have been burnt down. No fort exists on S. bank of river. Samar W. C.—Calbayog River. A fixed white light visible 10 miles is exhibited from a tower 55 feet high on the S.E. point of the entrance to the river.

Steady improvement in the cholera situation was shown by the reports of the Board of Health on the 11th inst. (says the *Manila American* of the 7th inst.), and a tone of increased confidence was noticeable about headquarters. The totals from the beginning of the outbreak up to 8 a.m. on 5th April were:—Filipinos, 140 cases, 106 deaths; Chinese, 9 cases, 7 deaths; American, 1 case, no deaths; Europeans, 2 cases, 1 death. Total, 152 cases, 114 deaths. Mortality, 75 per cent. Between 8 a.m. of the 5th and the same hour on the 6th there were:—Filipinos, 8 cases, 13 deaths; others, 1 case, no death; total, 9 cases, 3 deaths; and a mortality of 33½ per cent. Total to 8 a.m. Sunday the 6th, 161 cases and 117 deaths, and a reduced mortality of 72.6 per cent. This steady decrease of the mortality is an encouraging sign, since the history of epidemics shows that it is a feature which marks their close; the disease loses its virulence as it dies out. Between 3 a.m. and 5 p.m. yesterday there were six new cases reported. One was from a casco, one from Parola, two from Santa Ana, one a Chinese, was picked up on the street, and one from No. 142, Calle Isaac Peral, Ermita, in the Nipa-Shack District.

A native who recently tried to force his way through the quarantine guard around Manila was shot dead by a corporal.

The Admiralty have directed the shallow draught river steamer *Robin* to be paid off and re-commissioned at Hongkong. The relief crew will leave Portsmouth shortly.

A Penang telegram of the 8th current says that the residence of Mr. Otto Sielckens, partner in Messrs. Behn, Meyer & Co., was wholly gutted by fire on the 7th. The damage is set at \$30,000. The property was fully insured.

The following Imperial Decrees are taken from the *N.-C. Daily News*:—(1) Hsi Lin (Manchu) is appointed Commissioner of the Imperial Silk looms at Hangehow, Chékiang. (2) Hsiang Yan (Manchu) is given another term as Commissioner of the Imperial Silk looms at Nanking, Kiangsu.

Among many of the suggestions recommended by Tsoai Lu Zengab, the organiser and the head of the late relief society which was formed in the North after the Boxer trouble, was "the establishment of a banking corporation after the model of foreign banks." The suggestion has met with the approval and support of Lu Chuan-Ling, a minister of the grand council.

The Chinese Imperial Postal Authorities have decided to lower the rates of postage. Sir Robert Hart in an official despatch to the Board of Foreign Affairs informed the latter that the C.I.P. would be prepared to send all letters, etc., that have been registered in the native official post office without additional postage.

It is reported that there is trouble of some kind at Ningpo. Anyhow, says the *N.-C. Daily News* of the 10th inst., it is certain that the German men-of-war *Geier* and *Luchs* were ordered late last night to proceed to that port. The *Arethusa* is also to proceed to Ningpo so soon as she can get away, probably at 8.30 a.m. this morning.

The reports of the two chief Bible Societies working in China, the British and the American, show that during the year 1901 there were no less than 3,106,295 Bibles, New Testaments and single portions sold. Of these, over two million were in Mandarin, over seven hundred thousand in the classical style, and the remainder in the various Chinese dialects, Thibetan, and Mongolian.

Yesterday evening, says the *Kobe Chronicle* of the 2nd inst., at the Jiyutei Hotel, the members of the Kobe Chamber of Commerce (Japanese) gave a dinner of congratulation to Mr. Yamamoto, the President, and Mr. Takigawa, a member of the Committee, who were lately decorated with other gentlemen who had rendered good service to the commercial advancement of Japan.

Admiral Baron Yamamoto, Minister for the Navy, entertained at dinner Count Katsura, the Premier, Baron Komura, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sir Claude MacDonald, British Minister, the Admiral in command of the British squadron on the China Station, together with Admiral Ijuin and the officers in command of the cruisers *Asama* and *Takasago*, which are proceeding to England.

The Manila *El Comercio* takes a philosophic view of the cholera outbreak. It remarks:—"Cholera is a hot weather disease and common in the Orient. There is no more occasion for the Americans to be alarmed at the present trifling outbreak than for the Spanish residents to become panic-stricken had a few cases of pneumonia, a disease common in cold climates, appeared in Manila during the recent stretch of cold weather."

"Merchant" writes to the Foochow *Echo*:—"A notification issued from the British Post Office stating that in future all inward and outward parcels over one pound in weight will require to be examined by the Customs and either delivered or forwarded only upon production of duty paid memo, brings more forcibly to our notice one of the many irksome restraints upon business resulting from the new regime in China as an outcome of recent troubles, and the indemnity consequent. The above affords a valuable object lesson and clearly emphasises the hard fact that 'commerce' has to bear the full brunt of extra taxation. No specious reasoning or tortuous framing of expressions can overreach the truth, that foreign trade has to carry the burden of China's criminal policy during the past two years. The chickens are coming home to roost with a vengeance."

The *N.-C. Daily News* has been informed by the Mitsui Bishi Co., that they are in receipt of a telegram from Canton stating that Viceroy Tao Mu of that city has notified the foreign Consuls that, owing to the spread of the Kwangsi rebellion, foreigners are warned not to go beyond the Treaty port of Wooshow, until further notice.

The battleship *Vengeance* has been ordered to commission at Portsmouth on 18th April, says the *L. & C. Express*, for service with the Mediterranean Fleet. The station originally named for the *Vengeance* was China, but it is possible now that the Anglo-Japanese understanding has been arrived at, we shall not further reinforce our fleet in Far Eastern waters.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1 lbs.	1899-00 lbs.
Yokohama	—	—
Kobe	—	—
Hiogo	12,500,474	140,070,35
	12,500,474	14,070,735

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 18th April.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 18th April.—The downward tendency continues, market being dull. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.20 to \$8.25	pel.
do. " 2, White.....	7.15 to 7.20	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.90 to 5.95	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.80 to 5.85	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.05 to 8.10	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	7.10 to 7.15	"
do. " 1, Brown ...	5.85 to 5.90	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.70 to 5.75	"
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	12.75 to 12.80	"
Shekloong "	9.80 to 9.85	"

RICE.

HONGKONG, 18th April.—There is very little change to report in the position of the market. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.65 to 2.70
" Round, Good quality	3.80 to 3.85
" Long	4.10 to 4.15
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.85 to 2.90
" Garden, " No. 1	3.30 to 3.35
" White.....	3.90 to 3.95
" Fine Cargo	4.20 to 4.25

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Oriental* sailed on the 29th March. For London:—250 bales waste silk, 50 bales raw silk, 60 boxes tea, 15 m/pkgs. tea, 35 cases bristles, 2 cases hair, 12 bales canes, 2 pkgs. cassia sample, 16 pkgs. private effects, 7 pkgs. sundries. For London opt. Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For Lyons:—432 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—100 bales waste silk, 60 bales raw silk, 2 cases feathers. For Manchester:—175 bales waste silk.

Per steamer *Hudson* sailed on the 2nd April. For New York:—3,300 bales hemp, 1,218 pkgs. fire crackers, 100 cases gall nuts, 28 cases personal effects, 20 bales canes, 52 bales straw raids, 5 cases fans, 6 cases joss sticks, 3,374 pkgs. merchandise.

Per steamer *Ernest Simons* sailed on the 7th April. For Marseilles:—205 bales raw silk, 11 cases silks, 3 cases Japanese ware, 10 cases essential oil, 3 cases wooden ware, 65 rolls matting. For Lyons:—614 bales raw silk. For Milan:—65 bales raw silk.

SHANGHAI, 2nd April.—Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co. say in their Piece Goods Report dated 27th March:—The interval since writing our last circular has been very short, occupying as it does only four days, and there is in consequence little to write about. The market generally speaking is quiet but firm, and while the volume of business done from first hands is comparatively small it is pleasant to note that a few indents have been placed with both Manchester and New York on the basis of the prices ruling on these markets. It is probable that the business done with the former market has been from stock, as we believe for forward delivery full prices are still demanded. Business with Tientsin has been much hampered by the ruinous rate of

Exchange now given by the Native Banks who have taken full advantage of their position, and we are given to understand that at a meeting of the Tientsin shippers, held recently, it was decided to curtail shipments to a minimum quantity for few weeks. The rate of Exchange to-day is 920 and the native merchants are afraid if they send forward goods on anything like a free scale it will be forced down to the neighbourhood of 900. Chefoo has been much better during the past few days and a fair business has been done for that market. At Newchwang matters have been somewhat upset by a heavy fall of snow, but to-day's telegraphic advices indicate that prospects continue favourable and this is, in a way, confirmed by the manner in which their dealers have been buying for near delivery. The River Ports remain very quiet and the market at Ningpo continues dull, their few requirements being apparently filled at the auctions. Latest telegrams from Manchester advise the market very firm but quiet and that it is closed until Tuesday morning next on account of the Easter holidays. The Liverpool market is slightly easier, cotton having declined to 41½d. New York remains firm with little business doing.

SHANGHAI, 2nd April.—Messrs. Alex. Biefeld & Co. say in their Metals and Miscellaneous Report dated 27th March:—METALS.—The following goods have been sold by auction:—2,200 piculs cobbles Tls. 2.24 to 2.41½ picul. 700 piculs fire bars Tls. 1.35½ picul. 400 piculs railway spikes Tls. 2.51½ piculs. 250 piculs angle iron Tls. 1.83½ picul. 1,600 piculs cable wire (local) Tls. 1.81½ picul. The following few lots of SUNDRIES have changed hands at the rates given:—500 boxes 5 lbs. 24 bars soap at Tls. 1.75. 500 boxes 45 lbs. 25 bars soap at Tls. 1.90. 50 cases ea. 10 gross hair pins at Tls. 19.00. 30 cases ea. 10 doz Enamelled basins 12 c/m at Tls. 19.00. 20 cases ea. 25 cattles imitation gold thread at Tls. 3.60. 10 cases ea. 100 doz. socks at Tls. 1.30 per doz. 10 cases ea. 25 cattles imitation silver thread at Tls. 2.50. 10 cases ea. 200 gross llama braid No. 65 at Tls. 0.35. 5 cases ea. 100 doz. handkerchiefs 16/16 at Tls. 0.60. KEROSENE has been very quiet, with no transactions by importers, and tea-shop prices failing to respond to the exchange fluctuation. Arrivals have been fair, deliveries small. Stocks are rather light.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 19th April.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*: 100 bales No. 6 at \$79.50 to \$80, 1,950 bales No. 10 at \$89 to \$96.50, 950 bales No. 12 at \$94.50 to \$97, 500 bales No. 16 at \$103.50 to \$110.50, 500 bales No. 20 at \$110.50 to \$121. *White Shirtings*: 250 pieces Elephant and Tree at \$6.42½, 250 pieces X 6 at \$4.85, 500 pieces Blue Ship 575 at \$5.10. *Gray Shirtings*: 500 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 Men at \$4.10, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$3.25, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 Men at \$4.15. *Drills*: 150 pieces 14 lbs. Cow-chop at \$4.55, 150 pieces 15 lbs. Large Eagle No. 2 at \$6.40, 150 pieces 15 lb. Cat-head at \$5.75. *T-cloths*: 600 pieces 8 lbs. C Cat at \$3.75.

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$80.00 to \$121.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.10 to 2.20
7 lbs.	2.25 to 2.50
8.4 lbs.	3.00 to 3.60
9 to 10 lbs.	3.75 to 4.75
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.45 to 2.75
58 to 60 "	3.20 to 4.20
64 to 66 "	4.30 to 5.10
Fine 5.30	to 7.50
Book-folds 4.35	to 6.75
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.75 to 1.30
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.75 to 2.00
7lbs. (32 ")	2.05 to 2.35
6lbs. (32 ")	2.10 to 2.20
7lbs. (32 ")	2.85 to 3.40
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	3.10 to 3.60
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14 lbs.	4.10 to 6.85

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5 lbs. 1.60 to 2.65

DAMASKS—

	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted	0.58 to 0.90
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.24 to 0.50
Velveteens—18 in.	0.22 to 0.80

Tls. 8.50 cash, 9.00, 8.80, and 8.75 for June and 9.00 for July. DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Sales of shares in S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co., Ltd., were made at dropping prices:—Tls. 280/257½ for cash, 262½/257½ for April, 265/262½ for May, 270/265 for June, 272½/267½ for July and 275 for August. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co., Ltd. Shares were placed at Tls. 270, 275 for cash. LANDS.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were sold at Tls. 106. INDUSTRIAL.—Business was done in Ewo Cotton Mill shares at Tls. 39, and they are wanted; Shanghai Ice shares at Tls. 25, and more are wanted; China Flour Mill shares at Tls. 44; Shanghai Pulp and Paper Mill shares at Tls. 106/107 cash and for April at 108.110; and S. Moutrie & Co.'s shares at \$60. TUGS AND CARGO BOATS.—Shanghai Tug Boat shares were placed at Tls. 200. MISCELLANEOUS.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were sold at Tls. 45.42 cash, 46½/47 for April and 47 for July. A fair business was done in Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares at Tls. 305 (a forced sale) and 310 cash, 315 for April, 315 for May, 325/312½ for June, 330/317½ for July and 337½ for August. Hall and Holtz shares were placed at \$38/40 cash and 40 for September; Central Stores shares at \$22; Astor House Hotel shares at \$250; Weeks and Co.'s shares at \$27½; and Hotel des Colonies shares at Tls. 22½. LOANS.—Shanghai Waterworks 6 per cent. Debentures were sold at Tls. 103, and more are wanted. Shanghai Municipal Debentures are wanted.

Shanghai, 16th April (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). A fair amount of business has been done during the week, with a weak market for some stocks. We note a decline in Indo-China and Shanghai-Langkai shares. MARINE INSURANCE.—Business was done in North Chinas at Tls. 190, and in Yangtszes at \$35 cum dividend of \$12 paid yesterday. SHIPPING.—Indo-China S. N. Co. The market has been rather irregular, with a downward tendency. Sales were made for cash at Tls. 99 to 95, for April at 97, for June at 100.99, for July at 102.98, for August at 100, and for September at 108.00. SUGAR COMPANIES.—China Sugar Refining shares were sold at \$12½. MINING.—Chinese Engineering and Mining shares have been dealt in at irregular rates. Sales were made for cash at Tls. 8.80 to 8.65, for April at 8.72½, for May at 8.60, for June at 8.80 to 8.50, and for July at 8.85 to 8.6½. DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co. Cash sales were made at Tls. 255, 256 and 257½, for April at 255/257½, for May at 260, for July at 265 and 267½, and for September at 270. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares changed hands at Tls. 270. LANDS.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were sold at Tls. 105, and are wanted. INDUSTRIAL.—Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving shares have received some attention, business having been at Tls. 33/32½ cash and 40 for June. There are enquiries for Laon-kung-mow and Foychee shares. Shanghai Ice shares were placed at Tls. 26. China Flour Mill shares at Tls. 44; and Shanghai Pulp and Paper shares at Tls. 110 cash, 111 for April, and 116 for July. TUG AND CARGO BOATS.—Co-operative Cargo Boat shares were sold at Tls. 127½. MISCELLANEOUS.—Business was done in Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares at Tls. 43/45 cash and 45 for April. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares at Tls. 290 to 280 cash, 315/310 for June and July, and 315, 302½, closing at 305 for September. Hall and Holtz shares at \$41, Weeks & Co. shares at \$24 and Hotel des Colonies shares at Tls. 22½/25. LOANS.—Shanghai Land Investment Company's 5 per cent. debentures were sold at Tls. 95.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON (str.) *Glaucus* (str.), *Candia* (str.), *Diomed* (str.), *Machao* (str.), *Agamemnon* (str.), *Stentor* (str.), *Alcinous* (str.), *Kaisow* (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—*Chingwo* (str.), *Achilles* (str.), *Peleus* (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—*Candia* (str.), *Yarra* (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—*Konig Allert* (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Adria* (str.), *Saxonia* (str.), *Segovia* (str.), *Serbia* (str.), *Suevia* (str.), *Strassburgs* (tr.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Glenogle* (str.), *Shinano Maru* (str.), *Tosa Maru* (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of India* (str.), *Athenian* (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—*Maristow* (str.), *Queensland* (str.).

FOR PORTLAND (Or.).—*Indravelli* (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—*Taiyuan* (str.), *Yawata Maru* (str.), *Australian* (str.).

FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—*Hiroshima Maru* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

April—

- 12, Aleides, British ship, from Kobe.
- 12, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
- 12, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 12, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
- 12, Msidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
- 12, Mara Kolb, German str., from Moji.
- 12, Ness, British str., from Moji.
- 12, Thea, German str., from Chefoo.
- 12, Thistle, British barque, from Freemantle.
- 13, Bardsey, British str., from Newport.
- 13, Calchas, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
- 13, Germania, German str., from Singapore.
- 13, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 13, Shinano Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
- 13, Whampoa, British str., from Shanghai.
- 13, Yushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 14, Ceylon, British str., from Shanghai.
- 14, C. H. Kian, British str., from Singapore.
- 14, Dardanus, British str., from Shanghai.
- 14, Diamante, British str., from Bangkok.
- 14, Espingle, British gunboat, from Sheerness.
- 14, Glenogle, British str., from Shanghai.
- 14, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
- 14, Kumsang, British str., from Calcutta.
- 14, Picciola, German str., from Iloilo.
- 14, Salamanca, British str., from Manila.
- 14, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
- 15, Benledi, British str., from London.
- 15, Contest, British barque, from Rajang.
- 15, Daphne, German str., from Macassar.
- 15, Empress of India, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
- 15, Glengyle, British str., from London.
- 15, Herm. Menzell, Ger. str., from N'chwang.
- 15, Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
- 15, Prinzess Irene, Ger. str., from Hamburg.
- 15, Pronto, German str., from Hoihow.
- 15, Silvia, German str., from Colombo.
- 15, Stuttgart, German str., from Yokohama.
- 15, Taishan, British str., from Kolsichang.
- 15, Taichow, German str., from Bangkok.
- 16, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
- 16, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Canton.
- 16, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 16, H. ngsang, British str., from Canton.
- 16, Hansa, German cruiser, from Amoy.
- 16, Hong Bee, British str., from Straits.
- 16, Kiukiang, British str., from Canton.
- 16, Loyal, German str., from Bangkok.
- 16, Mathilde, German str., from Hoihow.
- 16, Pakshan, British str., from Saigon.
- 16, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 17, Achilles, British str., from Liverpool.
- 17, Apenrade, German str., from Hoihow.
- 17, Ariel, Norwegian str., from Taku.
- 17, Awa Maru, Japanese str., from Japan.
- 17, Java, British str., from London.
- 17, Kwangse, British str., from Amoy.
- 17, Pelayo, British str., from Foochow.
- 17, Tiger, German gunboat, from Swatow.
- 18, Changchow, British str., from Tientin.
- 18, Fukui Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
- 18, Hongkong, French str., from Hoihow.
- 18, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
- 18, Laertes, British str., from London.
- 18, Marburg, German str., from Hamburg.
- 18, Miike Maru, Japanese str., from Bombay.
- 18, Penarth, German str., from Weihaiwei.
- 18, Silesia, Austrian str., from Kote.
- 18, Simongan, Dutch str., from Newchwang.
- 18, Taishun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 19, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
- 19, Loksang, British str., from Taku.
- 19, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
- 19, Michael-Jensen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
- 19, Tonkin, French str., from Marseilles.
- 19, Tsintau, German str., from Bangkok.
- 19, Yushun, Chinese str., from Canton.

April—

DEPARTURES.

- 12, Benlarig, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 12, Bormida, Italian str., for Bombay.
- 12, Coromandel, British str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
- 12, Independent, German str., for Chefoo.
- 12, Ixion, British str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Loosok, German str., for Bangkok.
- 12, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Malta, British str., for Europe.
- 12, Store Nordiske, Danish str., for a cruise.
- 13, Kashing, British str., for Amoy.
- 13, Onsang, British str., for Moji.
- 13, Peresvet, Russian battleship, for Nagasaki.
- 13, Perla, British str., for Manila.

- 13, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 13, Fausang, British str., for Tientsin.
- 13, Gloucester City, British str., for Saigon.
- 13, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 13, Hangsang, British str., for Canton.
- 13, Quarta, German str., for Amoy.
- 14, Calchas, British str., for London.
- 14, Chunsang, British str., for Tientsin.
- 14, Esang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 14, Yushun, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 15, Australian, British str., for Kobe.
- 15, Dardanus, British str., for London.
- 15, Evie J. Ray, Amr. larque, for Rajang.
- 15, Koyo Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
- 15, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 15, Ness, British str., for Moji.
- 15, Pax, Belgian str., for Saigon.
- 15, Pitsannlok, German str., for Bangkok.
- 15, Prinzess Irene, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
- 15, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
- 16, Bjorn, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
- 16, Cheang H. Kian, British str., for Amoy.
- 16, Chelydra, British str., for Moji.
- 16, Elsa, German str., for Hongay.
- 16, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
- 16, Kutsang, British str., for Saigon.
- 16, Lightning, British str., for Calcutta.
- 16, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
- 16, Salamanca, British str., for Chefoo.
- 16, Savoia, German str., for Chefoo.
- 16, Silvia, German str., for Tsingtau.
- 16, Stuttgart, German str., for Europe.
- 16, Tartar, British str., for Vancouver.
- 17, Benledi, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 17, Ceylon, British str., for London.
- 17, Germania, German str., for Amoy.
- 17, Hangsang, British str., for Swatow.
- 17, Hue, French str., for Kwongchauwan.
- 17, Kiukiang, British str., for Ningpo.
- 17, Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
- 17, Mara Kolb, German str., for Moji.
- 17, P. C. C. Kiao, German str., for Bangkok.
- 17, Shantung, British str., for Hongay.
- 17, Taisang, British str., for Canton.
- 18, Ariel, Norwegian str., for Canton.
- 18, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
- 18, Glengyle, British str., for Shanghai.
- 18, Haiching, British str., for Const Ports.
- 18, Hongbee, British str., for Amoy.
- 18, Pakshan, British str., for Swatow.
- 18, Pronto, German str., for Haiphong.
- 19, Achilles, British str., for Shanghai.
- 19, Awa Maru, Japanese str., for London.
- 19, Bardsey, British str., for Saigon.
- 19, Deuteros, German str., for Saigon.
- 19, Diamante, British str., for Manila.
- 19, Java, British str., for Shanghai.
- 19, Madeleine Rickmers, Ger. str., for S'pore.
- 19, Pelayo, British str., for Singapore.
- 19, Picciola, German str., for Saigon.
- 19, Silesia, Austrian str., for Trieste.
- 19, Simongan, Dutch str., for Tjilatjap.
- 19, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
- 19, Yushun, Chinese str., for Chefoo.
- 20, Apenrade, German str., for Hoihow.
- 20, Chowtai, German str., for Bangkok.
- 20, Daiji Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 20, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
- 20, Loyal, German str., for Bangkok.
- 20, Mathilde, German str., for Haiphong.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Malta*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Rev. Bishop Joseph, Drs. Brown and Stuart, Sisters Marie and Katherine, Major Cleveland, Messrs. L. Mosser, A. Bastian, Haardt and Devos; for Singapore Madame Blanco and Mr. P. J. Burgess; for Marseilles, Mrs. and Miss Merrill and Mr. H. Schornich; for London, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hay, Mr. and Mrs. E. Page, Mr. and Mrs. Grierson, Mrs. Ker, Mr. and Mrs. Grist, Mr. and Mrs. W. St. Drummond, Lady Hornby, Mrs. I. M. Drummond, Mrs. H. M. Bevis, Mr. and Mrs. McCallum, Misses V. Pealy and Coulson, Rev. J. H. Slimmon, Sergt. McNeil, Major Ducat, Messrs. A. R. Wilson, J. M. Milne, J. H. Bateman, and W. S. Nocentine; from Yokohama, for Plymouth, Messrs. T. Polhill, W. Pash, A. A. Williams, B. J. Graham, A. Wakeley, A. Bath and C. B. Erridge.

Per *Australian*, from Adelaide, Mr. A. Simpson; from Sydney, Mrs. A. Marshall and infant, Mrs. F. Debenham, Mr. and Mrs. Burnard, Mrs. A. Bainbridge, Mr. and Mrs. G. Trollop, Messrs. N. K. Davidson, H. C. Hankey, E. P. Oldfield, F. Stevenson, A. Anderson, W. C.

Dickson, H. S. Bainbridge, W. H. Jones, E. A. Lawrence, A. G. H. Gardiner and Harvie; from Queensland Ports, Messrs. Donoghue and McGovern; from Port Darwin, Mr. and Mrs. Gurny and Mr. Frere; from Timor, Mrs. Idalina Maria Dias and Mr. Antonio Joaquim Soares; from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Irving Turner, Mrs. Swarthout and infant, Misses Milk and Zina Mer, Messrs. Hall, Jas. A. Bar and Mariano Concepcion.

Per American Mail, from San Francisco, Rev. and Mrs. S. Dayon, Mrs. R. Ford, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Keith, Misses Keith and R. Keith, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Wheeler, Mrs. I. N. Nason, Messrs. G. M. Johnson, C. H. Leadbetter, August Nelson, Dr. R. Schiffmann and Miss K. McIsaac; from Honolulu, Mrs. G. F. Kennedy, Capt. J. A. Lusk and D. H. Ward and Mr. J. O. Packard; from Yokohama, Rev. Father McKinnon, U.S.A., and Dr. Kodera; from Shanghai, Misses G. L. Cohen and K. Stone, Messrs. G. P. Jungk and E. Housberry.

Per Savoia, from Singapore, Mr. Lorem.

Per Perla, from Manila, Baroufski's Circus and the Jordan Troupe.

Per Coromandel, from Hongkong, from London, Mrs. Kinross and three children, Rev. F. Mostyn, Qr.-Master Sergt. Smith and Mr. R. White; from Marseilles, Messrs. Hart Buck and J. R. M. Smith; from Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. Le Moine; from Bombay, Capt. Trevor, Mr. N. Rudolf, Mr. and Mrs. Shirazi; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Davies, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Starmer, Messrs. H. R. Scott and J. Whitson; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Fraser; Mr. Ponting, Misses J. and F. Zeller and Fredrick; for Shanghai, from London, Messrs. E. W. Mitchell, W. W. G. Ross, J. Stewart and W. Betts; from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Burkill and child, Mr. and Mrs. Money, Mr. and Mrs. Bourne and child, Messrs. Kipling, Bassett, F. de Caltano, Whitelock, Gray, A. Reid, G. W. Thornton, E. Macaulay, J. Ramsden, and Railton; from Colombo, Messrs. Lobb and R. W. Mansfield; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Plant and daughter and Mr. H. Bell.

Per Yushun, from Shanghai, Mr. Davies.

Per Hoihao, from Pakhoi, &c., Dr. and Mrs. Lowry, Messrs. Moule and McKenzie.

Per Shinano Maru, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mrs. Watrous, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, Miss Ridpath, Drs. K. Matsuda, Z. Tamura, K. Kino, T. Fukuda, S. Matosima, S. Yano, K. Matsumi, and Mr. H. Ono; for Colombo, Mr. A. D. McLean.

Per Glenogle, from Shanghai, Mr. J. Skott.

Per Thales from Swatow, Rev. and Mrs. Mackenzie and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Streich.

Per Salomancu, from Manila, Capt. S. O. Squiers, Misses Peals (2), and Mr. A. H. Cameron.

Per Kumsang, from Calcutta, Mr. and Mrs. W. Fold and two children and Mr. S. Fold.

Per Glengyle, from London, Mrs. Lowe and family, Miss Ellis and Mr. Wright.

Per Empress of India, from Vancouver, Mrs. Mabee, Messrs. A. Greig, R. W. Macfarlane, G. Stewart, J. G. Gowland, A. Ireland and R. Calgrave; from Yokohama, Mrs. Griffiths, Misses M. Spicer, M. Lampton, B. Turton, D. M. Vogel and E. D. Vogel; from Shanghai, Mrs. Hagen and child, Capt. Farrow, Messrs. J. E. Griffith, H. W. Hooley, Bramwell, R. Lyons and Walrond.

Per Princess Irene, from Hongkong, from Hamburg, Miss A. Siebert, Messrs. W. Ritter and V. Christopherson and family; from Southampton, Messrs. Aldrich and W. Robertson; from Genoa, Drs. H. McDougall and Vong and Mr. Hugo Vromm; from Naples, Mr. G. Bassantini; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Spinner and Mr. P. M. I. Hill; from Penang, Capt. and Mrs. Heldens, Mr. A. Nicoll and Misses Nicoll (2), Messrs. A. E. Young, H. Vane and H. B. Joseph; from Singapore, Dr. Otto Strebel, Messrs. C. K. S. Walker, P. V. Davies, van Nievelt, van Schmidt, H. B. Bigelow, Ware Sephan Don and L. Gibbs; from Hamburg, &c., for Shanghai, Mrs. Bruce and child, Mr. and Mrs. Theodor, Mrs. Pilquist and children, Mrs. Andrew and family, Mrs. Lawson, Mrs. E. M. Hickmott, Mr. and Mrs. Henderson, Capt. Lieut. Albiners and family, Dr. Jorgen Nilssen, Rev. Arnetoedt, Capt. J. C. Jensen, Misses H. Hannig, M. Graham, S. Mundle, Aitken, A. Sweeney, Eva French, E. Gaultlett and Zich-

meister, Mr. Mantaye Ede and family, Mr. H. Prerdhomme and family, Mr. Gotteberg and family, Mr. Andrew and family, Mr. Schoen and family, Messrs. Berndt, Scheffler, Machnitzky, Schlie, Gunther, H. G. Fletcher, W. Meyer, C. A. Burgers, James McKie, J. Lewis, N. J. Danihoff, Ch. Knauer, F. Heiching, P. Kracke, Baurat Poetschkers, A. R. Saunders, B. F. Kreyer, Emil Radke, B. Liput, D. Silva, J. B. Desborough, B. Crackan, Albert Stern, James McLeod, James Hanner, Paul Heinrich and Zaphia Francisca; for Nagasaki, Mrs. Belm and children Staatsrath Makofsky, Rev. and Mrs. Bruen, Mrs. Machamoto Omat, Mrs. Shimoyeola Ohiaseny and child, Mrs. Bossich Sige and child, Mrs. Muta Sutahayday, Mr. and Mrs. Jewowitz, Mrs. Otto, Mrs. Omnay, and Messrs. W. Gluner and Mr. Moltchan pky and child; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hampden, Mrs. Abegg and children, Mr. and Mrs. Thood Stern, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Cheerkoff, Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. Fischer, Misses Neodohoff, A. Langel, F. Vickets, Bixby, Ludelt, Wood and Keswick, Mr. and Miss Gray, Mr. A. Eccles and family, Mr. Mess and family, Mr. v. Eckert and family, Mr. W. J. Lane and family, Mr. W. Corver and family, Messrs. A. P. Eccles, jr., F. L. Taverner, Edward, S. P. Vickers and Arthur klm.

Per Stuttgart, from Hongkong, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Greif, Mr. and Mrs. Brand, Messrs. Woldemar Wedekind, J. A. Jebsen, W. Carey, G. D. Musso, G. V. Anderson, S. O. Sdansk, Alex. Grant, Federliand, R. Costa and S. Stein; from Nagasaki, Mr. B. M. Eipenstark; from Kobe, Mr. O. D. Lawrence; from Yokohama, Mr. J. E. Kristiansen.

Per Haiching, from Coast Ports, Mr. and Mrs. Macintosh and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Cruz, Miss Kekewick, Dr. Razlap, Messrs. Shaffit, Lauson, R. Bruce, F. Ashton and Haro Kusaka.

Per Thales, from Swatow, Miss Facompre and Mr. S. J. Grainger.

Per Ava Maru, from Japan, &c., Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Howkins and Mr. Arthur Levy.

Per Java, from Hongkong, from London, Mrs. Huke, Lieut. Clark, Misses McDonnell and Perry and Mr. Morgan; from Marseilles, Mr. Elmore; from Singapore, Messrs. Carmichael, Todd and Huke; for Shanghai, from London, Mrs. Oswald and Miss Ripley.

Per American Mail, from San Francisco, &c., Misses Louise Hood and H. L. Tuzo, Messrs. F. Van Nuys, R. E. Stallings, W. Kendall, G. P. Hawthorne, L. W. Smith and Mrs. L. Tuzo.

DEPARTED.

Per Zafiro, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Todd and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Wright, Miss A. White, Messrs. J. M. Gonzales, J. M. Bolles, W. B. Rantz, D. B. Mendez, D. A. Abaranhamz, and D. A. Jonoria.

Per Malta, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Lieut. Quennell, Capt. Barford, and Mr. E. V. Robinson; for Brindisi, Mr. P. A. Hudtwalcker; for London, Mrs. Clark, child and two daughters, Dr. and Mrs. Lowson and two children, Qr.-Master Sergt. and Mrs. Miller and two children, Staff-Sergt. and Mrs. Sivier and five children, Mrs. Cesar Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. J. Turner, Mrs. Stenlake and infant, Miss Thorndick, Capt. T. A. Mitchell, Messrs. G. Y. Veitch, F. Henderson, M. Faherty, C. Freeman and M. McLeod.

Per Rosetta Maru, from Hongkong, for Manila, Mrs. H. Ullmann and child, Mrs. K. M. Cooney, Mrs. Nason and Mrs. J. F. Kennedy, Miss H. Hirota, Miss A. D. Barretto, Miss K. McIsaac, Captain D. H. Ward, Messrs. G. M. Johnson, T. G. Nicklin, S. Sugiura, R. Schiffmann, W. D. McKinnon, August Nelson, C. H. Leadbetter, F. Kemp, J. Meller and W. E. D. Claybrook.

Per Coromandel, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Eucoracao, Mr. and Mrs. Senna Fernandes and six children, Mrs. Miss and Master O'Shea, Mrs. Swarthot, Mrs. Rosina Meiyer and Mrs. Marshall, Misses A. C. Pereira, B. M. McCoy and Taylor, Captain Pratt, Messrs E. P. Hudson, H. M. Webster, Dauby, Cumming, L. Witetscha, Lethrope, Scott, John Barclay, Rodier, H. G. B. Gully and de la Neziere.

Per American mail, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Messrs S. Rhodes, J. J. Woolen, T. L. Tandy and Newsom; for Nagasaki, Mrs. Winn;

for Kobe, Messrs. R. Roy and A. J. Finlay; for Yokohama, Mrs. R. J. C. Irvine, Mrs. W. A. Boss, Misses Irvine and Gilman, Messrs. L. Cloutier, L. H. Bonnelly, S. A. Campbell, M. C. McDonald, and W. A. Ross; for Honolulu, Capt. J. A. Lusk and Mr. J. Q. Packard; for San Francisco, Mrs. A. Christeson, Mrs. B. Carrington, Mrs. G. F. Holzelaw, Mrs. Whiting, Misses Licile Carrington, Holzelaw, A. Christeson and Carman, Dr. Bailly, Masters Carrington and Holzelaw, Lieutenant Bootes, Messrs. O. Berquet, S. S. Humes, F. H. Doolittle, and J. H. Hall.

Per Tartar, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. McIntosh and three children, Miss Kekewick, Dr. Brown, Messrs. Robert Douglas and L. Mooson; for Yokohama, Mrs. J. Lebrée, Mrs. H. A. Field and infant, Mrs. E. A. Peck, Mrs. R. H. Peck, Misses K. Smith and Liddell, Capt. G. O. Squire, U.S.A., Messrs. E. Macanlay, J. D. Venables, C. H. Dale, F. H. Evans, Albertson, Edwards, Stainard, A. L. Griffith, P. T. Gilbert, E. W. Oliver, M. L. McCullough, F. R. White and J. Ramsden; for London, Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Fraser, Lieut. Geo. E. Edmunston, Capt. A. P. Trevor, Messrs. S. W. Cartwright, F. Salinger, Henry R. Scott, J. Whitson, H. Vane and Young; for Havre (France), Capt. Gadell.

Per Stuttgart, from Hongkong, for Colombo, Consul and Mrs. Streich; for Naples, Rev. J. Passerini; for Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. Dieperichsen, Messrs. E. K. Bull, J. Irving, J. W. Jones and Strebel; from Japan, for Penang, Mr. P. M. Walker; for Colombo, Mr. O. Meyer; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Geo. Smith; from Shanghai, for Singapore, Miss Hocking, Mr. E. Jonah; for Naples, Mr. F. Jovino; for Genoa, Messrs. J. Kohn, H. J. Tollmer, J. F. Schmidt, Venturi, Robt. Zink, Otto Kunde, E. Pfaff and T. E. North; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Good.

Per Prinzess Irene, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. J. Hurt and child, Mr. and Mrs. Leigh and child, Miss Williams, Messrs. C. Heermann, V. de Rodez, G. P. Jungk, F. Webenham, V. A. Dodge, Walrond, J. J. Gutierrez, Schen, D. Teratis, James Brown, W. Scott and Dr. Lejonne; for Nagasaki, Mrs. Douranovo, Mrs. G. L. Cohen, Mrs. J. Handelmann and Lieut. C. E. J. Wahl; for Kobe, Mr. H. J. Ponting; for Yokohama, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Sturmer, Mrs. Haver Droeze, Messrs. G. Engel, M. G. Bailey and Ford; from Europe, &c., for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Theodor, Mrs. Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Mantay, Mrs. Pilquist and children, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew, Mrs. Lawson, Mrs. E. M. Hickmott, Mr. and Mrs. Schven, Mr. and Mrs. C. Henderson, Misses M. Hannig, M. Graham, S. Mundle, J. Aitken, A. Sweeney, E. French, G. Gauntlett, Zechmeister and Z. Francisca, Capt. J. C. Jensen and Albiness, Dr. J. Nielsen, Messrs. Berndt, Scheffler, Machnitzky, B. Poetschken, R. Schlie, R. Gunther, N. G. Fletcher, W. Meyer, C. A. Burgess, Jas. McKie, J. Lewis, W. J. Danihoff, Ch. Knauer, H. Prudhomme, D. Huchting, P. Kracke, Arnetoedt, Gotteberg, A. R. Saunders, B. F. Kreyer, E. Radke, B. Liput, J. B. Desborough, D. Silva, B. Crackan, A. Stern, J. McLeod, Hannah and P. Heinrich; for Nagasaki, Mrs. Behn, Mrs. Moltchanowski, Rev. and Mrs. Bruen, Mr. and Mrs. Jurowitz, Messrs M. Mess, Makopstky and W. Genner; for Yokohama, Mrs. K. Mess, Mr. and Mrs. T. Stern, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Cherkoff, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hampton, Mr. and Mrs. Edward, Mr. and Mrs. Fischer, Mrs. W. J. Lan and son, Mrs. Abegg, Mrs. C. Silva and son, Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, Misses Weodohoff, A. Langel, F. Vickers, Bixby, Gray, Ludelt, S. Wood and Keswick, Messrs. A. Tnelesen, A. Eccles, F. L. Downer, Tekirt, W. J. Lane, S. P. Vickers, W. Corver, J. Corver, A. Elm, H. Jennings, and Gray.

Per Ceylon, for London, from Hongkong, Mrs. Mackenzie and two children; from Shanghai, Mrs. and Miss Ford, Rev. and Mrs. Ridgeley and Mr. Dorry; from Kobe, Mrs. Church; from Yokohama, Mrs. T. Prevost and five children.

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